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GOVERNOR MURRAY D. VAN WAGONER

A BIOGRAPHY

MMURRAY DELOS (PAT) VAN WAGONER was born March 18, 1898, on a farm in the Thumb district of Michigan, a mile east of Kingston in Tuscola County. His parents, now dead, were born near Oakwood, Michigan. His mother's maiden name was Florence Loomis. She was of English descent. His father, James Van Wagoner, was of Dutch ancestry. Both had been school teachers.

He was born five minutes after St. Patrick's Day ended. Dr. George Simenton of Marlette, attending his mother, found the family had hoped for a girl and had no name in mind for a boy.

"I'll name him Patrick," the doctor said. "I don't care what you do later. Pat's the name he'll go by."

But an uncle, Delos Loomis, objected. "I've got a standing offer of a five-dollar gold piece for the first nephew of mine to be named for me," he said.

Mrs. Loomis preferred the name Murray as a starter because she "liked the sound of it." So the Van Wagoner family compromised on the two names and took the five-dollar gold piece from the "name fund."

The doctor's prophecy held good, however. Murray D. has been called "Pat" since birth.

The family moved to Pontiac in 1900, where Jim Van Wagoner went into the insurance business. Pat attended Wisner and Baldwin grade schools. He was big for his age, husky—and a born leader of his group from the day he terrified the



MURRAY D. VAN WAGONER

neighborhood by climbing atop the Pontiac Motor Company water tank, six stories high.

At the age of 13, when he was in the sixth grade at Baldwin School, life suddenly became serious. Already it was complicated by the presence of a little girl in pigtails half a grade behind him.

She was Helen Jossman, and he had decided to marry her. He said so publicly. He bribed classmates to change desks with him, so he could sit near her. She moved to another desk each time, but he persisted. Eventually, in 1924, he did marry her.

The serious note was injected by Mrs. Mable Roy, his teacher. She told the class one day that "It's all very well to finish grade and high school, but the acid test is to graduate from college."

Pat had been dreaming a bit of building bridges. Now he began doing his school work in earnest, his mind set on college. It was hard sledding, because he had a natural aptitude only for mathematics. But he began studying until late each night, trying for good marks in every subject.

When a lesson was missed he'd stay after school voluntarily to talk it over with Mrs. Roy. "Now that didn't look like college, did it?" was his constant self-rebuke.

His hearty laugh was with him even then. Once it nearly caused him to leave school. Another student had whispered a joke in the classroom while a new teacher was temporarily in charge. Pat roared—and the teacher decided to take drastic steps to show her authority. She took Pat by the collar and escorted him into the hall.

His shirt torn, his sense of justice outraged, the tearful boy vowed to leave school. But Mrs. Roy had heard the commotion in the hall and consoled him.

"Don't let little things stop you, Pat," she said. "It all depends on your backbone. Keep plugging and you're bound to come out on top."

He never forgot the help given him by Mrs. Roy. It was a

case of finding an outsider to trust and confide in, at a time when he needed steering most. Even today he visits Mrs. Roy and asks her advice on general problems of character and ethics.

"Pat always had to work for what he got," Mrs. Roy recalled. "He studied his problems through, asked advice of those he trusted—and once he made up his mind on what was right, he never compromised."

By the time he was in the eighth grade, Pat had thought a lot about college and saw a new problem. His parents could give him little help toward paying his way. He asked Mrs. Roy if it were possible to work his way through.

"Why certainly, Pat," she said. "There are all sorts of jobs you can get. You can even cut pies in a restaurant if necessary."

And for weeks afterward Pat pestered his mother to bake pies every day. Finally he triumphantly told Mrs. Roy he had learned the art of cutting pies without making a mess of them.

His mother's aversion to rowdyism caused her to hesitate when he wanted to play football after entering Pontiac high school in 1913. So Pat did not turn out for practice. In self defense he told his friends he thought football was "butchery".

Since he was big and husky, other players thought he would be an asset to the team. When they couldn't persuade him to play they began calling him "yellow".

Pat said nothing. But the next day he was out for practice.

Once his feud was settled, Pat found he liked football. And his father became his strongest supporter. He followed every game, hopping and yelling on the sidelines as Pat starred for four years in the line and backfield.

Pat was a slow starter with the ball, but once under way his long stride and high knee action made him hard to down.

His faculty for making up his own mind was shown in a game in 1915. Strong opposition made it seem that the game would end in a scoreless tie. Pat was Pontiac's punter. Near the end of the game, with the ball deep in Pontiac territory,

Coach Goodloe H. Rogers sent in a sub to tell Pat to punt out of danger.

Pat ran instead, and scored the winning touchdown by his surprise move. After the game Rogers took him to task anyhow, for ignoring orders.

"I figured my way was right, so I did it," Pat said calmly.

He showed an early ability to turn the tables in his favor by apt repartee. One afternoon he was late to class. Principal Sam M. Dudley was his sessions room teacher. He called Pat to the front of the class for an explanation.

"We had eggs for dinner and I had to gather them," Pat grinned.

The next afternoon he was late again. As he walked in, Dudley called him to the front of the room once more.

"I suppose you were gathering eggs for dinner, Mr. Van Wagoner?"

"No," said Pat, "Today we had fish."

On another occasion he spoke in a town that wanted a new road which Van Wagoner felt was not necessary. A delegation interrupted his speech to attempt to force the issue in front of the group which had invited him to speak.

After trying for a few minutes to show why the cost of the new road could not be justified, Van Wagoner saw his reasoning was getting nowhere.

"Well, I'll just tell you that you aren't going to get a new road," he said. "It's no use to bring these 'pressure groups' against me. I just don't push good."

The audience applauded his stand, despite the fact that local men were rebuffed.

The Van Wagoner home at 55 Clark in Pontiac was an informal YMCA. All the neighborhood boys gathered there, helped Pat tinker with his father's car, chipped in to pay the damages when Pat ran the car right through the barn the first time he drove it, and worked with Pat on building model speedboats with crude electric motors.

Where Pat was, there was action.

He was a class officer, a member of the high school's first

track team, and sang loudly if not well in several Gilbert and Sullivan operettas at school.

He played violin in the school orchestra. His teachers said the band was a flop until Pat started practicing. His high spirits and tact were purposely capitalized on by the band director to bring other players to practice. The inducement was—"Pat Van Wagoner's joined the band. Come on over and get in on the fun."

At 16 he began going to dances with Helen Jossman—and thinking about good roads. Three times in his senior year at high school he borrowed the family car to drive to dances in neighboring towns, and each time the entire party had to walk home. The car stuck in mud each time. Pat said then he'd like to build roads as well as bridges.

He entered the University of Michigan in 1917, graduating with a civil engineering degree in 1921 after specializing in highway engineering and highway transport.

Jim Van Wagoner was a Democrat when Democrats were scarce in Oakland County. He served one term as Tuscola township treasurer and ran for county register of deeds on the Democratic ticket in 1908, and was prominent in Party caucuses all his life.

Nor is Pat himself a "depression" Democrat. He ran for county surveyor on the Democratic ticket in 1928, five years before he became highway commissioner. He took a licking—but he never switched parties.

In college, his persistent plugging toward his goal of building bridges continued. He worked after classes until midnight in Marquadt's Garage, and was a helper in an undertaking firm, to raise the rest of the money to meet expenses. In summer he worked at the Pontiac Motor Company.

He won his freshman award in football, and won two reserve awards on the varsity squad. In his first game as starting center in his sophomore year, he suffered a knee injury that plagued him all the rest of his football days. Coach Fielding H. Yost sent in a substitute who went on to All-American

honors and who never needed a substitute for three years—the great Ernie Vick.

“Pat showed fine spirit, shifting to any spot in the line where he was needed, and sticking it out despite the fact that he never got beyond the scrub team after his injury,” Yost said. “He loved the game and was glad to do his bit in scrimmage to help the team.”

That same appetite for action continued strong all through his college life. Leslie A. (Doc) Wikel, veteran Ann Arbor druggist whose store has been a hangout for generations of students, tells many a story of Pat's college high-jinks.

“He wasn't here two days before he was rebelling at the sophomore hazing customs,” Doc chuckled. “I remember one night he refused to tip his frosh ‘pot’ to a couple of sophomores and they ganged up on him. He was doing all right until about fifty more closed in on him, with murder in their eyes. He had messed up a few and the rest didn't like it.

“Pat saw the gang coming, and he decided to run. He out-distanced them all, and later he told me he chased a dog out of a kennel on College Avenue and spent the night there, with the sophomores hunting all over for him.”

His engineering professors noticed that he was an earnest worker, a good student, who won the respect and liking of his fellows.

“I never knew Pat to ‘talk through his hat,’ or fail to keep a promise,” said Professor L. M. Gram. “He was a natural-born leader. He had his fun, but it never interfered with school work.”

Pat was vice president of his engineering class, joined the ROTC to prepare for war service in 1918, and was active in extra-curricular affairs.

He was president of the Pontiac club at the University, member of the civil engineering society, the Vulcans, Webb and Flange, and the Triangles—all engineering groups. He is a member of the Gridiron Club.

After graduation he saw his dream come true—he built some bridges. He joined the state highway as resident construction

engineer and division bridge engineer, with headquarters at Alpena.

His first bridge was a 90-foot camel's back on M-46 at Elwell, west of Alma; his second, a swing bridge at Marine City, over Bell River. After that he directed bridge construction for 12 counties.

Then another dream came true. He married Helen Jossman, his school-day sweetheart. He joined a Pontiac engineering firm for a short time, then set up his own firm in Pontiac.

It prospered for the next seven years, until he turned to politics and left private work. During the interval his wife worked at his office, handling accounting.

He was a member of the Pontiac Exchange Club and aided in forming the city's junior chamber of commerce. In 1930 the two organizations asked him to represent them on the second annual Michigan air tour.

While he was on this trip, friends circulated petitions for him to run for county drain commissioner on the Democratic ticket. Recalling the licking he had taken in 1928 when he ran for county surveyor, he was not anxious to run, but finally consented.

He won by 515 majority—the first Democrat to win an Oakland county post in 20 years! He inaugurated a program of tax reduction by refusing to build drains on property burdened by tax delinquency. And two years later he was re-elected by 7,400 majority!

In the spring of 1933, Van Wagoner was given unanimous nomination of the Democratic State convention for the office of state highway commissioner. He defeated Grover Dillman in the April election for a four-year term—and this time carried Oakland county by 15,000. He was re-elected to another four-year term in 1937. He was the first Democrat to hold the highway post.

His record as chairman of the anti-diversion committee of the American Road Builders' Association led, in 1938, to his election as president of this, the largest highway organization in

the world. He was re-elected in 1939, and joined the board of directors upon expiration of his second term as president.

He was an official American delegate to the International Road Congress at The Hague in 1938, on appointment of President Roosevelt. He is a member of the national committee on street and highway improvements by appointment of the Secretary of Commerce.

During his administration of the Michigan highway system, national attention has been focused on tourist highway development in the state, particularly upon new shoreline road construction and roadside development.

Two national design awards have been received in this period for bridge structures. Greater Woodward Avenue in Detroit, one of the nation's outstanding municipal widening projects, is another achievement of his administration.

His record as president of the American Road Builders' Association included westward expansion of the organization, together with a renewed effort in every state against diversion of highway revenues. Three states adopted constitutional amendments against diversion during his term of office, including Michigan.

Commissioner Van Wagoner is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Michigan Engineering Society, and one of the founders of the Oakland County Engineering Society.

In addition to his office as highway commissioner, he is a member of other governmental boards, including the State Administrative Board, the State Board of Aeronautics and the Michigan Stream Control Commission.

He has two daughters, Ellen Louise, born December 2, 1930, and Jo Ann, born April 24, 1932; a brother, J. L., of Pontiac, owner of an insurance firm, and a sister, Mrs. Harold Tufty, a Washington newspaperwoman.

He is a member of the Episcopal church, American Legion, Rotary Club, Exchange Club, Masonic and Elks Lodges, and of the Lansing Country Club—although his golf averages around 120.

SILVER JACK

BY JOHN I. BELLAIRE

Manistique

THE Michigan logging woods never produced a character more unique than "Silver Jack" John Driscoll, nor a person destined to be more maligned and misunderstood. Old timers who knew him on the Muskegon and Tittabawassee rivers in the Lower Peninsula have clamored for someone to vindicate "Silver Jack"; friends in the Upper Peninsula have repeatedly asserted that he was victimized by enemies and his character assassinated by those who feared and hated the two-fisted lumberjack who never lost a fight when he was sober.

It seems now that "Silver Jack", the original and real "Silver Jack" and not the counterfeits who took his nickname in order to glorify themselves—is at last going to get a square deal.

Material has been gathered for the past few years on "Silver Jack" which reveals indisputable proof that the hard-boiled character of the early logging woods was not the criminal his prison record paints him, nor the booze-drinking brawler that his enemies tried to make him out. It is expected this research will produce evidence which will clarify the misunderstanding that has shrouded his name, and portray him as he really was—a rugged, lovable man, a friend of the weak, generous to his last penny, and a dashing figure with the women.

"Silver Jack" John Driscoll was born in Peterboro, Ontario, Canada, and attended the schools of that city. When he was about eighteen years old he left home and started for Michigan where the glamour of Michigan white pine had cast its spell over thousands of Canadian youths. Arriving in the Saginaw valley, then the heart of the pine industry, he became a lumberjack. He studied his new job carefully and ultimately became one of the best woodsmen in the state. He later worked in the Muskegon district and when the pine became exhausted in the northern part of the lower peninsula, he moved north

and worked in the camps around Seney, Michigan. Later he was employed in West Superior, Wisconsin, and Duluth, Minnesota, and finally wound up in L'Anse, Michigan, where a lumber firm hired him to oversee the spring drive on the Yellow Dog River in Marquette County.

His chief weakness was liquor, and it was then that his enemies gathered around to beat him up. Ninety per cent of his fights were in defense of some weaker person who was being bullied.

Despite statements to the contrary, "Silver Jack" never toted a gun, and his fights were always with the weapons nature gave him—his fists, his feet and his teeth. These, however, he used with a ferociousness seldom equalled, biting, kicking and punching in the good old rough-and-tumble style of the lumbercamps.

According to those who knew him well, "Silver Jack" was popular with the ladies, and he took great delight in going to dances and stealing the other fellow's girl—which usually resulted in a fight. Unlike others who used the name of "Silver Jack" the original "Silver Jack" never was found in the company of women of ill repute.

Several lumberjacks have been called "Silver Jack". One of them at one time worked for the late Frank Cookson. Another was generally known as a bad number, a gambler and crook who toted two pistols and wore a broad sash around his neck. This one was shot in a gambling room in Ewen. His escapades helped greatly in blackening the character of the original "Silver Jack" who was given this name in Saginaw, by a man named Daly, because of his silvery hair. Another story I unearthed was the claim made by some who knew him, that he was called "Silver Jack" because it was said his hair had turned almost prematurely white in his youth. Others claim that it was because he used to carry around in his pockets pure silver nuggets, but would never tell where he had found them.

The biggest blemish on "Silver Jack's" character was a five-

year prison sentence he served in Jackson prison for robbery armed. Friends claimed that he was framed. In 1882 in Saginaw, Michigan, some of his enemies got him drunk and put \$2.50 and a 38 calibre revolver in his pocket. They next told Saginaw police that "Silver Jack" had held them up and robbed them. Being under the influence of liquor, he didn't know what to say when he sobered up, and the court sent him to Jackson prison for a five-year stretch. It appears to be fairly well substantiated that he was the victim of a frame-up. John McIsaac, who died several years ago in the Hiawatha hotel in Manistique, was a member of the Saginaw police force at the time, and he said he was convinced that the lumberjack was victimized.

The unjust prison sentence embittered "Silver Jack". He was an unruly prisoner. At one time he almost escaped. Two cronies, who worked in the prison shoe department, nailed him up in a large, wooden shoe box. The box was hauled on a dray to the depot before authorities, missing "Silver Jack" and suspecting what had taken place, opened the box and found him. This attempted escape and his intractable disposition as a prisoner caused the authorities to give him a poor report when he was finally discharged.

An episode which showed the reputation "Silver Jack" had attained as a fighting man took place one time on the Tittabawassee River. Driscoll was a staunch Catholic, and a bully working on the drive started to malign his religion. "Silver Jack" warned the blusterer, but the latter, believing Driscoll was afraid, continued to wise-crack and criticize. It finally resulted in a terrific rough-and-tumble fight, with kicking, gouging, biting and punching. Fellow workers ultimately parted the two men and the battle was called a draw. But the bully never offered religious criticism in "Silver Jack's" presence thereafter.

Another famous battle of "Silver Jack's" took place later on the Muskegon river where two lumber companies were conducting a drive. The boss for one company was a notorious

bully and he so terrorized his competition that his company had little difficulty monopolizing the river. The second company was worried and threatened with a financial loss. Hearing of the fighting prowess of "Silver Jack" they sent for him and put him on the drive as boss. The result was inevitable. The two men promptly clashed. "Silver Jack" had two teeth knocked out, but he succeeded in chewing off his opponent's right ear. The fight was another draw, but the bully had been taught a lesson and he no longer tried to bulldoze, and terrorize men working for the competing lumber company.

Some of those who knew Driscoll tell of another episode where the nimble fists of the fighting lumberjack subdued a notorious bully. This took place in Duluth, after he left Seney. An Irishman named Murphy ran a saloon in Duluth. He was having trouble with a gang of steel workers led by a bully. Every Saturday night this gang would invade the drink emporium and pick fights. Such fights usually resulted in smashed furniture, and also drove trade away. Finally Murphy went in search of a bartender who also could serve as a bouncer, and "Silver Jack" was recommended. The bully and his cronies heard about the new bouncer at Murphy's saloon, and the following Saturday they promptly made for the saloon to throw out the upstart. For a while they remained quiet, carefully observing the new bartender. Finally their leader became abusive and "Silver Jack" challenged him to a fight. Eye witnesses said only two blows were heard, the crash of Driscoll's fist on the bully's jaw and the impact of the steel worker on the saloon floor.

Another battle was told me by William Heron who was foreman for a logging company on the Muskegon River. His company was having trouble in getting their logs down the river after they were cut and ready to drive. The year before their logs were tied up on the banks of the river. This rival lumbering Company's foreman and bully, I learn, was known as "Jack McGovern". William Heron's lumber company appealed to him for some solution of the trouble. Mr. Heron

advised them to hire "Silver Jack" John Driscoll, who he claimed would take care of the bully of the competing company. Mr. Heron was sent to look up and tender the river driving job to "Silver Jack" who accepted the position. It was not long after the river drive started that the two men promptly clashed. "Silver Jack" and "Jack McGovern" Mr. Heron relates fought to a draw. The fight lasted nearly an hour. Mr. Heron says that the two men were weaving around on the ground, clutching and clawing at each other, when they both broke holds and sprang to their feet. "Silver Jack", he relates, seemed to have some hidden accession of strength and fury. He caught "Jack McGovern" in a merciless, powerful up-percut on the jaw and the bully collapsed. "Silver Jack" stepped back to wait for his antagonist to recover and arise to his feet. In a few minutes he recovered and stood up, holding out his right hand. He said, "I want to shake hands with you, I believe we can work together." Mr. Heron relates that for three years both companies put out their entire cut of timber and that there was no more trouble. The bully had been taught a lesson and he no longer tried to bulldoze and terrorize men working for the competing company.

I was able to glean the following from T. G. Belanger of L'Anse: It appears that Mr. Belanger's father ran a lumber-jack boarding house under the name of "The Ottawa Hotel". This Hotel still stands in the village of L'Anse, located opposite the entrance to the Ford Motor Company's saw mill. In the L'Anse cemetery in one corner you will find a grave now overgrown with weeds in which lies "Silver Jack" John Driscoll, the original and only real "Silver Jack", champion of the north woods, whose deeds almost rivaled those of Paul Bunyan; who was known, admired, hated and feared from the Saginaw Valley to the Superior shore, and who is variously reported to have been shot on an Upper Peninsula train; killed in a saloon in Ewen; drowned in the Tahquamenon River; died in State prison; or drifted off to an unknown end in the State of Washington.

Ask any old timers in Clare, Roscommon, Farwell, Grayling, Muskegon, Manistee, Seney, Duluth, Marquette, L'Anse and other towns where he swung fists and axe, and they will tell some such story.

T. G. Belanger says "Silver Jack" John Driscoll met a prosaic, unromantic fate, having died with his boots off, a victim of pneumonia, in the Ottawa Hotel in L'Anse, April 1, 1895. Beside him under the pillow of his bed was found the following: A bottle of cough medicine, \$85 in bills, and a note reading, "This will be enough to bury me."

Ironically enough, his death spoiled an April Fool joke he framed upon Oliver Durocher, a small superstitious French-Canadian who served as man-of-all-jobs at the Hotel.

"Silver Jack" came to L'Anse in 1893, probably from Seney, says Mr. Belanger. Seney at that time was one of the wildest and wooliest towns in Michigan. I remember very distinctly in the Spring of 1895 "Silver Jack" came to Seney to hire a crew of lumberjack river-drivers to take out a log drive on the Yellow Dog River. "Silver Jack" was considered one of the best all around lumberjacks in Upper Michigan. The men all liked to work with him. He had no trouble in getting a crew of the best river drivers obtainable. That was the last we ever heard of him. Many of the men returned after the drive.

Years of dissipation and the term in Jackson Prison for a crime he did not commit had softened and slowed him, but still he was a champion. He stood six feet four inches tall. Possessing an insatiable lust for battle, he mopped up Curley Leclair, Jack McGovern, Joe Fournier, and many other huskies from the Huron Bay country without much difficulty.

"Silver Jack" John Driscoll was one of about sixty lumberjacks who boarded at the Ottawa Hotel, Belanger recalls. "Silver Jack" had caught a cold, shortly after he came out of the woods from the river drive in the Spring of 1895 and a doctor summoned by my mother ordered him to bed. He joked a lot at the time over his plight. On the evening of March 31

he asked Mother to shout down stairs that he was dead when she brought up his breakfast the next morning. "Oliver will come running into the room, and I'll scare the life out of him by rising up in bed and yelling "April FOOL" said "Silver Jack."

The next morning Mother found him dead. He had passed away in the night. The air of impending comedy quickly changed to one of tragedy. Oliver refused to enter the room. Instead, with tears streaming down his face, he went down the street shouting "Come queeck, Silver Jack, she dead."

"Silver Jack was an erring member of a good family in Peterboro, Ontario, Canada," Mr. Belanger added. "He was very kind to children, and proud of his reputation as a fighter. "I am still king of the woods!" he would shout, throwing out his massive chest, and clinching his fists. Few dared to dispute him even at his age 65."

Michigan lumber woods produced many hard men but none harder than "Silver Jack" Driscoll. Unlike many others whose names have gone down in the traditions of the pine woods, "Silver Jack" never sought a fight. "Roaring Jimmy" Gleason was a trouble maker. "Bull Dog" Hamilton would travel miles to get mixed up in a good scrap. So would Terry McLaughlin and a French-Canadian by the name of Pickette. Maybe "Silver Jack" will rest easier in his grave when some one comes forward to clear his name of the odium that the years have heaped upon it.

The following chantey or ballad of old logging days in Schoolcraft County comes from the files of Charles B. Reilly, proprietor of the Whip-Poor-Will Farm Resort just off highway M-149, on the west shores of Indian Lake. Mr. Reilly, who was formerly with the Manistique and Lake Superior Railway made hundreds of trips through what is now Hiawatha National Forest. He has a large collection of material relating to the old lumberjack period of the Upper Peninsula. As far as known the following verses have not heretofore appeared in print:

SILVER JACK

I was on the drive in '80,
On the drive with Silver Jack,
He's in the penitentiary now,
But he's soon expected back.

There was a chap among us
By the name of Bobby Waite;
He was smooth, slick and cunning
As a college graduate.

He could talk on any subject
From the Bible to Hoyle.
His words flew out as easy
As ever a man poured oil.

He was what you call a skeptic,
And he loved to set and weave
His tales of fancy wonders
And things we couldn't believe.

One day, while waiting for a flood,
We all were sitting 'round,
Smoking Niggerhead tobacco,
And hearing Bob expound.

He said Hell was all a humbug,
And he showed as plain as day
That the Bible was a fable,
And how much it looked that way.

"You're a liar!" someone shouted,
"And you've got to take it back!"
And everybody started,
'Twas the voice of Silver Jack.

"Maybe I've not used the Lord
Always exactly white;
But when a chump abuses Him
He must eat his words or fight.

"It was in that old religion
That my mother lived and died;
Her memory's ever dear to me,
And I say that Bob has lied."

Now Bob he was no coward,
And he spoke up brave and free;
"Put up your dukes and fight, my lad,
You'll find no flies on me."

They fought for forty minutes
While the boys would whoop and cheer;
And Jack spit up a tooth or two
And Bobby lost an ear.

At last Jack got him underneath
And slugged with all his might;
So Bobby finally agreed
The Silver Jack was right.

And when they got through fighting
And rose up from the ground
A friend fished out a bottle
And it went quietly round.

They drank to Jack's religion
In a solemn sort of way;
And just to clinch the argument
They worked no more that day.

I lived in Seney from the spring of 1892 to 1903 and I knew "Silver Jack" John Driscoll. I remember when he came to Seney to hire the river driving crew in the spring of 1895. I have checked out all the information I could find on "Silver Jack" John Driscoll. I am convinced that this man is the original and only "Silver Jack". Angus McDougall, the present Supervisor of Germfask Township, a man now in the eighties, knew this man in Canada, worked with him on the Tittabawassee River, the Muskegon River, the Saginaw and Manistee rivers. Thomas Harcourt, now dead, was born and spent his boyhood days with John Driscoll and worked with him on the same rivers where Mr. McDougall worked.—J.I.B.

SOCIETY OF OCCIDENT AND ORIENT

BY PHILIP SLOMOVITZ

Editor, *Detroit Jewish Chronicle*

THIS unique journalistic enterprise had its foundations in the old Army and Navy Club in Detroit on April 10, 1923.

Defying whatever differences may have existed between the contending groups which go to make up our national life, spokesmen for 22 racial and national groups organized what is known as the Society of Occident and Orient. East met West in this new and unique movement.

The ideal of this group is incorporated in the following Creed:

"The Society of the Occident and Orient is formed to bring together the editors, writers and correspondents of the foreign language press resident in Detroit and Michigan, that they may benefit mentally by social intercourse and obtain an amicable understanding of the ideals, hopes and problems of the different peoples of the world as expressed and interpreted by authoritative writers.

"The society is non-political, non-religious and non-national, striving only to promote a harmonious union of the various nations represented in its polyglot membership, that they as individuals may broaden their mental horizon and understand America and interpret to America and other countries the ideals for which America and other countries stand.

"It is the belief of the members of this society that there are no superior or inferior peoples. That every nation has something worth while, some contribution to make to the common treasury of human progress. Through this union the members of this society hope to reach a better understanding of the national ideals of other peoples and the contribution of each to the progress of literature, science and arts."

The organizers were two newspaper men who write for English newspapers. The others represent the Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, Polish, Greek, Italian, Belgian, Bulgarian, Maltese,

Swedish, Danish, Jewish, Hungarian, German, Russian, Armenian, Lithuanian, Rumanian, and Hindoo groups.

James L. Devlin, of the *Detroit News*, who fathered the idea, was the first prefect of the Society holding the office for three terms. Philip Slomovitz, editor of the *Detroit Jewish Chronicle*, held this office for two terms, and was followed by George Laskaris of the *Greek Progress*; John Barc, Polish journalist; John Hansen, Danish writer; Samuel D. Weinberg of the *Jewish Daily*; Robert Clifton and Constantine Dinu.

The Society is in no way political or sectarian. In the pooling of the various nationals from every part of the globe into this country, those who conduct Americanization movements seem to fail to understand that to create an amicable understanding by the immigrant of the American ideals, it is necessary also that the immigrant be understood and his ideals appreciated. Americanizing agencies have not yet begun to appreciate that the most important factor in Americanization of immigrants is the foreign language press, whose constant urgings upon newcomers here are for assimilation into American environment. The creation in this city of the Society of the Occident and Orient, composed of representatives of the foreign language press, should go a long way towards creating a condition quite as important as anything that has yet been done in Americanization. What is of tremendous importance is that the immigrant not only understand America, and vice versa, but that a better understanding be created among the various elements that make up our community. The new press organization has for its aim the obtaining, by the foreign language newspapermen, of an amicable understanding of the ideals, hopes and problems of the different peoples of the world, and through their newspapers that understanding is bound to be disseminated among their readers. Being non-political, non-national and non-religious, the Society of the Occident and Orient should prove a force for much good in this state.

THE PAUL BUNYAN YARNS

BY JAMES CLOYD BOWMAN

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WHEN FREDERICK J. TURNER in 1893 published *The Significance of the Frontier in American History*, he gave not alone the historian but also the student of literature a new point of view from which to explore the "striking characteristics" of the American mind and personality. It has taken literary critics the intervening half century, however, to discover Carver, and to appropriate the rightness of his approach. Many, indeed, have yet no clear understanding of the part environment has played in the development of the American spirit or the American sense of humor.

What one needs to understand in any consideration of the Paul Bunyan lumberjack yarns is that they are an outgrowth of the soil, and as such are the most fundamentally American of all our folklore. They are a native outgrowth of the movement of broad humor and tall talk that swept up and down our frontier for fully a hundred years. They are the latest, and, in many ways, the best interpretation of the American spirit in its conquest of the continent. Men laughed at danger, and flung themselves into the arms of fortune with an exuberance of spirit that asked no quarter, and that knew neither fear nor failure.

The large expansive frontier environment of the unexplored vastness freed the imagination of our forebears. The needed urge for humorous exaggeration was supplied by the traditions which sprang up in Europe and in the settled areas of America concerning the frontier itself. The civilized people back home, in their lack of first-hand knowledge, exaggerated the danger and the hardship of the wilderness. The frontiersmen, in turn, played upon these misconceptions, and portrayed themselves as soldiers of the wildest fortune, with the physical prowess of the unshorn Samson and the front of the bold Jove himself. They not only twisted the tail off the bobcat and plucked the

whiskers from the mountain lion and bridled and saddled the grizzly bear, but they controlled the comings and goings of the Aurora Borealis and even on one momentous occasion shot down the Pleiades out of the sky.

These hardy soldiers of fortune shouted so loudly at their own accomplishment that they soon became intoxicated at the sound of their own voice, and thus were entirely irresponsible for their wild braggadocio. But in deepest truth they were whistling to keep up their own courage in the face of constant terror and horror and death, for they were so hard pressed that without the medicine of humor they could never long have survived.

There is no intention here to trace the development of the frontier spirit from its origin to Paul Bunyan, or try to show the persistent traits of its character, but we can illustrate briefly.

During the second decade of the nineteenth century we come upon this frontier brag: "I am a regular tornado, tough as hickory, and longwinded as a nor'wester. I can strike a blow like a falling tree, and every lick makes a gap in the crowd that lets in an acre of sunshine."

Across the early decades of the century, Daniel Boone strides as the central figure, and around him surge the wild stories that go into the making of his concrete personality. Boone loved the open country, and was always crying for more elbow room. When another frontiersman took up a claim thirty-five miles away, Boone complained that his back yard was being defiled, and "pulled stakes" and moved farther into the wilderness. His miraculous rifle was always at his side, and with it he could at a single shot of his ramrod nonchalantly pull a dozen honking geese down out of the sky.

By the time the third and fourth decades arrived, Davy Crockett was standing atop the western world, and magnet-like was attracting all the wild tales of the frontier to his own person. Davy was reputed to be "as shaggy as a bear, wolfish about the head, and could grin like a hyena." His grin had

the power of magic, and with it he could pull the wildest and fiercest beast down from the tallest tree. Once he grinned so hard that he fetched the bark off a knot-hole which he mistook for the eye of a wild cat. He was so strong that he could hold a buffalo bull out at arm's length. So true was his aim that he could put a bullet through the moon with his faithful old squirrel rifle.

Many lesser heroes came and went with the years, and it was not until after the Civil War that Paul Bunyan burst like a meteor upon the horizon. The Industrial Revolution was sending thousands of men into the forests, and the forests again released the restraints of civilization, and refired the imagination. The lumberjacks found refreshment for their spirits by capping the biggest yarn their bunkmates could spin. They laughed until the great trees of the forest echoed their refrain.

Supposedly the original Paul Bunyan was a "big black" Frenchman, a woods foreman of Canadian origin, with prepossessing physical prowess. Year after year has added to Paul's physical stature and to his miraculous accomplishments until he has become the greatest of all frontier heroes. Many of the yarns which were once told concerning earlier heroes have been taken over by Paul as a part of his own accumulating myth.

If Paul Bunyan has specialized in any one thing more especially than in anything else it has been in Geography, with a capital G. The following yarn will sufficiently illustrate: One bright spring morning Paul discovered that all the billions of feet of logs that he and his men had cut and dragged down to the banking grounds during the previous winter were landlocked in a lake in Northern Minnesota. Without blinking an eyelash, Paul ordered Ole, his great Swede blacksmith, to make an enormous shovel. Paul took this shovel one morning before breakfast, and started to dig a canal from this lost lake in Minnesota through to the Gulf of Mexico. He took his direction from the path the wildfowl had cleft in the air during

their last migration. He shoveled so fast that soon the sun was darkened as if by a total eclipse. The dirt that flew over his right shoulder formed the Rocky Mountains, and what he hurled in the opposite direction (there wasn't room in the sky, you understand, to throw all the dirt one way) became the Appalachians. Paul reached the Gulf at the end of the first day just as the sun was about to set. He flicked a hundred gallons of sweat from his brow with his forefinger, flung his shovel down with a grunt and a smile, and galloped back to camp before the last light was put out for the night. On the way North he dropped one of his mittens by mistake. As the years passed, the sand drifted in about his forsaken shovel, and formed what geographers have since been pleased to call the peninsula of Florida. His mitten, too, filled with sand, and formed the entire Lower Peninsula of Michigan—Thumb and all! A pretty fair day's work, this delving out of the Mississippi River, Paul thought, though not really his greatest.

If one is to understand the American mind and the American spirit, one must comprehend its characteristic broad humor and its outlandish tall tale. These are deep rooted and still persist. And to appreciate these, one cannot do better than to acquaint oneself with Paul Bunyan.

WIELDED A STRONG PEN

Rufus Hosmer, an Old-Time Editor of Detroit,
He was a Forceful, Hopeful and Witty Writer.
A Man of Great Ability and Unfailing Geniality.

THERE are a few men now living [1898] who remember considerable about the early stages of Detroit daily journalism, and four or five who shared in its editorial work as far back as the early fifties. But their recollections of the dates and even sequence of events are varying and uncertain so far as they are able to recall the facts. The record of the numerous Whig, Free Soil, Temperance and Republican papers which, by absorption or consolidation finally resulted in the *Post & Tribune* of ten years ago, and the *Tribune* with its hyphenated Sunday edition, of today, reads like a genealogical chapter out of the book of Nehemiah. The names, dates of the establishment, suspension, absorption and consolidation of these various papers would not make the most entertaining literature, and it is not necessary to repeat them here.

During the period which preceded the war this assortment of papers, Whig, Free Soil or Prohibition, up to 1854, and Republican after that had among its editors a number whose names have been preserved either by tradition or memory, to the present time, including George Dawson, afterwards of the *Albany Evening Journal*, George W. Wisner, E. A. Wales, R. F. Johnstone, Joseph Warren, Frederick Morley, Henry Barns, W. S. George, J. F. Conover and Henry D. Baker. But there was no other who was quite so much of an original character as Rufus Hosmer. Part of his distinction came from the inherent character of the man, part because of the stirring events of the period during which most of his editorial work was done, and part because he was brought into antagonism with

Going through some old newspaper files the editor ran across this bit of journalistic history which seemed as fresh as the day printed and is here reproduced for the pleasure of our readers and for permanent record in our files. The article was apparently written by the late Mr. William Stocking of Detroit who during his later years contributed several excellent articles to the *Magazine*. The article appeared in the *Detroit Free Press* for Feb. 20, 1898.—Ed.

a versatile and forceful writer of the opposite political faith, Wilbur F. Storey of the *Free Press*.

Mr. Hosmer came to Detroit from Pontiac, where he had been active in politics and had some practice in law. In *Pioneer Collections* W. C. Hoyt tells of an encounter he had with Mr. Hosmer in a Justice Court where after some chaffing about Hoyt's youth and Hosmer's size, the latter proposed that, as both litigants were good checker players, the suit be decided by a test of their skill in that direction. This was accordingly done to the satisfaction of the attorneys, their clients, the crowd and the justice who entered judgment in accordance with the result of the game.

Before he came to Detroit Mr. Hosmer had some reputation in the state as an ardent politician, a sharp writer and a great wit. He became editor of the *Advertiser*, May 16, 1849, succeeding George W. Wisner, without any special announcement and even without the salutatory which was so common in those days. The paper then had four pages, with seven wide columns to the page. Looked at from the counting-room standpoint it appears to have been a very prosperous paper, for of its twenty-eight columns, twenty-three were filled with advertisements. Three columns of this was in steamboat and railroad advertisements, including one of the Michigan Central, announcing that the road was open to New Buffalo, and that passengers would be conveyed from Chicago to Buffalo in from 30 to 45 hours. This included transportation by the company's steamboats from Chicago to New Buffalo, and from Detroit to Buffalo. Among lawyers' cards in the advertising columns was that of Lothrop & Duffield, and among the business announcements appear the names of Hiram Walker, H. P. Baldwin, Arouet Richmond, F. & C. Buhl, Z. Chandler, Frederick Wetmore and Jacob S. Farrand. The local and miscellaneous news occupied less than a column, and the editorial about a column and a half. In subsequent issues the latter frequently went up to two columns, but the former was generally kept within one, and the telegraphic news rarely exceeded half a column.

In those days the editorials were the strong feature of the daily or weekly newspaper. The news as a whole, might almost be said to have had a secondary place. It was upon his editorials, therefore, that Mr. Hosmer put his main force. In matters political they were intensely partisan. It was not long before, almost as a matter of course, he became engaged in controversy with Wilbur F. Storey, who assumed the editorship of the *Free Press* in February, 1853. The editorials on both sides soon became bitterly personal. The private characters and habits of the editors and their families even were dragged into the controversy.

Mr. Hosmer was a very hopeful as well as a strong political writer. How well he could keep up his courage, or else how well he could bluff, is shown by an editorial headed "The Skies Never Brighter," and published only four days before the presidential election of 1852, which was so disastrous to the Whigs. Two days after that election, however, he gave up in the following paragraph:

"The figures show that we are badly beaten on Gen. Scott, but there is reason to apprehend that there are one or two states that have not gone for Pierce. We sincerely hope, before the arrival of another mail, to be able to refute this impression. Loco Focoism ought to have its perfect work, and the Free Soil variations will much enhance the interesting character of the performance."

Although a good deal of a politician, Mr. Hosmer is perhaps oftenest remembered as a great wit, and a most genial companion. He and "Billy" Gray, who long outlived him, were the most noted wits of the day in eastern Michigan, and were very chummy. They often joked each other, and Mr. Hosmer's pride in his editorials gave special point to one of Gray's "drives", which John Harmon used to tell with great gusto. "Rufus," said Billy one day, "There was a gintleman here from New York who wanted to place some advertising, and he asked me which paper he had better put it in, and I told him the Advertiser, av coorse."

"Well, I'm glad you recommended my paper, and I suppose you gave him good reason for preferring the *Advertiser*," said Mr. Hosmer.

"Yis; he asked me that same question why I recommended that paper, and I told him because there was nothing in the editorial or news columns of your paper that was calculated to draw attention away from the advertisements."

About Hosmer and Gray were gathered a lot of other genial souls among whom also Ray Haddock was a shining light. Hosmer was a good story-teller, and a good talker in public, and was in great demand for political and after-dinner speeches. His wit often sparkled through the columns of the paper, and he may be said, so far as Detroit papers are concerned, to have originated the funny column. He started on the editorial page of the *Advertiser* a humorous department, which was very popular with the readers. It comprised some of his own witticisms, and selections from exchanges, the latter being chosen with excellent literary taste, as well as with a fine sense of humor.

Robert Gibbons, who worked under him as a compositor, commencing in 1857, says: "Mr. Hosmer was a little above medium height, and tremendously fleshy. He had a great fund of humor and it would come out anywhere, in his writing or in conversation. He would laugh at his own jokes, as well as at those of other people, and with his great, rotund form shaking with laughter, he was a perfect emblem of an enthusiast. When he was engaged in a newspaper or political quarrel he was in dead earnest. He wanted his side to win. His political writing was tinged with satire, and abounded with bitter personalities. He was a very well-read man, and was always able to fortify his arguments with historic references, or with apt quotations from good authorities."

During the last part of 1853 and the first part of 1854, when new force was constantly being given to the movement which finally resulted in the formation of the Republican party, the *Advertiser* held out against the current—a course which was

distasteful to Hosmer and unpopular with a large element in the Whig party. In January, 1854, therefore, he left the *Advertiser*, and joined with Theodore Williams in establishing the *Enquirer*, taking in Frederick Morley as associate editor. The *Enquirer* was a hearty supporter of the Republican movement. In February, 1855, it was consolidated with the *Free Democrat*, with Silas M. Holmes as the principal owner. In June, 1855, Mr. Holmes got possession of the *Advertiser*, which was thus practically absorbed by its rival, and though the old name was retained, Hosmer was reinstated as editor and the paper became radically Republican. Mr. Hosmer did some of his best editorial work within the next two years. During this period, in company with John A. Kerr, he secured a contract for the state printing, which was at first done at the *Advertiser* office, but afterwards moved to Lansing. In the latter city he edited the *State Republican*, which was owned first by Fitch & Hosmer and afterwards by Hosmer & Kerr.

He died in Lansing, April 20, 1861, but it was many years after that before the newspapers and contemporary politicians ceased to talk about the political contests and the jests of "Roof" Hosmer.

THE BULL MOOSE MOVEMENT IN MICHIGAN

BY ALICE PORTER CAMPBELL

Lansing

(This article is briefed from a thesis submitted to the faculty of the Graduate School of Wayne University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts)

ON the evening of his arrival in Chicago, June 15, 1912, for the meeting of the National Republican Convention, a friend asked Theodore Roosevelt how he felt. He replied, "I am feeling like a bull moose." Such an expression caught the popular fancy and the progressive movement acquired a new name.

This culmination of progressivism into the Bull Moose party marked the end of a sixteen year period which had its beginnings in the election of 1896.

The election of McKinley was fought ostensibly on the silver question, but had William Jennings Bryan only realized it, the vote cast for him was the voice of protest against privilege.

In the United States Senate were a small group led by Nelson W. Aldrich of Rhode Island who represented privilege and railroad interests. In the House of Representatives, Joseph Cannon "who, although widely differing from Senator Aldrich in matters of detail, represented the same type of public sentiment."¹ Both men fought the growing progressive movement until finally Aldrich recognized it was too powerful for him to combat and retired from the Senate in 1910. Cannon was rendered useless to the reactionaries also in 1910 after the now famous and brilliant parliamentary battle led by George W. Norris of Nebraska which stripped the Speaker of the House of Representatives of his dictatorial powers and his seat on the Ways and Means Committee.²

During this period, at the turn of the century, there was a movement to rebuild the entire political structure. There seemed to be a feeling that if the government could be put

¹Roosevelt, T., *An Autobiography*, p. 366.

²For more complete account read Ogg, F. A., *National Progress*; Roosevelt, T., *An Autobiography*; *Congressional Record*, 61st Congress, 2d Session.

into the hands of the people everything would be all right. Direct primaries; direct election of senators; woman suffrage; initiative, referendum, recall; all these were kept before the people as a panacea for their political ills by the reformers of the period.

Magazines sprang up to make articulate the great middle class. The *American*, *Cosmopolitan*, *McClure's*, all had their beginnings in the last decade of the century. Miss Tarbell's history of the Standard Oil Company had started in 1902 in *McClure's Magazine*. In February, 1906, Upton Sinclair published *The Jungle* with its nauseating descriptions of the conditions under which meat was packed. Lincoln Steffens and Ray Stannard Baker were busy with their muck-raking literature.

This unrest was confined to no one section of the country. Although much of its force came from the West, a section of the country devoted to agriculture, which was receiving less of the good things derived from the government's let-alone policy in regard to business, it found adherents in all political parties. Although this progressive movement had as its earliest disciples in the Republican party such men as La Follette of Wisconsin, Cummins of Iowa, Johnson of California, Roosevelt of New York, yet it remained for a Democrat, President Wilson, to carry the progressive program into effect during his first administration, 1913-1917.

Theodore Roosevelt touched only the fringe of the problem in his program of governmental control of railroads, conservation of natural resources, pure food laws during his presidential administration. But so entrenched was Mr. Roosevelt in popular affections that he was able to pick his successor to the presidency.

William Howard Taft was of conservative temper, as were his chosen advisors. As Mr. Ogg says in his *National Progress*:

The great fact of the Taft administration was the failure of the President, of the Republican majority in Congress, and of the Republican party at large, to rise to the situation by giving the country the progressive legislation which it demanded.

The actual break of the insurgents within the Republican party came with the organization of the National Progressive Republican League, January 21, 1911. The League's Declaration of Principles called for direct election of delegates to national conventions, an amendment to state constitutions providing for initiative, referendum and recall, and a thorough-going corrupt practices act.

Sponsors of the League included six governors and nine senators. Governor Chase S. Osborn was Michigan's contribution. Conspicuous by its absence was the name of Theodore Roosevelt who was in sympathy with the League's purposes, in a general way, but who felt certain limitations and safeguards should be added. He was particularly anxious that the new movement should not resolve itself into a small group too far in advance of public sentiment.

The question of national leadership remained to be settled. A campaign for Robert LaFollette was definitely launched in December, 1911, with the Senator organizing and campaigning Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. Success was not with him all the way. In Michigan, Governor Chase S. Osborn suggested that both Senator LaFollette and President Taft withdraw in favor of Theodore Roosevelt for the nomination. The end of the LaFollette boom came February 3, 1912, when, in a speech in Philadelphia, Senator LaFollette assailed the Press of the country by barking "Corporation Control" at the reporters.

The swing was toward Roosevelt who intimated he would accept the nomination if it were a direct command from the people. The call from the people was carefully arranged. At a meeting in the *Outlook* editorial offices, January 23, 1912, it was decided that if the governors who had privately written Roosevelt that he should make the race for nomination, were to publicly urge him to run, he would do so. Frank Knox of Michigan was chosen to take the letter to the governors.

In an interview at Columbus, Ohio, February 21, Roosevelt told a reporter, "My hat is in the ring," became a candidate for the Republican nomination and, after the split, the candi-

date of the National or Progressive Party commonly known as Bull Moose.

CHASE S. OSBORN—PROGRESSIVE GOVERNOR

WHILE Michigan cast her electoral vote for Roosevelt, at the same time she could not be labeled a progressive state. When the votes were counted in November (1912) 38.94% of the votes were for Roosevelt, 27.63% for Taft and 27.36% for Wilson. The Republicans took all the state offices with the one exception of the governorship which went to Woodbridge N. Ferris, a Democrat. The national progressives ran second and third for the state offices but could not place a candidate.

There were several reasons for this. First, machine politics were strongly entrenched in Michigan. Also, the national progressive party was leaderless in the state. But greatest of all was the magic name of Roosevelt. Many voted for him who otherwise would not bolt the Republican party.

Chase S. Osborn was elected Republican governor of Michigan in 1910. His campaign was spectacular, made on the lines of progress and reform and correction of evils wherever they existed. He promised reform and economy and announced that he would not run for a second term as governor, that to the best of his ability he would reform the state government and then retire.

But the Republican party saddled Osborn, an insurgent Republican, with a platform calculated not to arouse the ire of either organization men or the progressive group. In the election, Osborn ran twenty-five to thirty-five per cent behind his party ticket while not over one-third of the adult population of Michigan exercised their right of franchise.

Once in office, Governor Osborn faced a hostile Senate who refused to approve his appointments. With a hostile Senate and an inert electorate there was little hope for success in any reform legislation.

Being one of the six governors who helped form the National

Progressive Republican League, Governor Osborn attempted to carry out their principles in his legislative program. The League urged six pieces of legislation upon the states. Of the six, Michigan had unqualifiedly approved one, Workmen's Compensation; had rejected four, direct election of Senators, the initiative, referendum and recall; a corrupt practices act and woman suffrage. The sixth piece of legislation was a step in the right direction, however it was a doubtful victory. The League called for direct election of delegates to the national conventions for the nomination of a president. The law as passed in Michigan bound delegates selected by state convention to nominees approved at the primaries. Chase Osborn as a progressive governor had led a splendid fight for the League's program.

Governor Osborn after his conflict with the Senate started to turn his attention to national affairs and the struggle with the Republican party for leadership in the coming convention to nominate a candidate for president of the United States.

However, at no time could Governor Osborn be regarded as the Progressive leader of his state. When the Roosevelt men bolted the Republican party and formed their own National Progressive Party, June 23, 1912, Osborn was not one of the bolters. Late in October, Osborn did take the stump for Roosevelt, but not in his own state. Instead, he confined his speaking efforts to Chicago, Missouri and Indiana.

BAY CITY REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

ALL this lively legislation during February and March promised an exciting State Republican Convention which was to be held in Bay City, April 9, 1912,³ to elect six delegates at large to the National Republican Convention to be

³The Bay City Republican Convention of 1912 was perhaps one of the most comic, disgraceful and tragic conventions ever held in the state. Men from both sides have been interviewed and their stories checked by newspapers of that date covering the convention. Memories were accurate and undimmed after almost thirty years so I proceed to tell the story and mention names with no personal bias or apology. Only one man, now deceased, still expressed animosity toward a member of the opposing faction. All the rest told their stories with much animation but finished with the attitude—let the dead past bury its dead.

held in Chicago in June. Both the Roosevelt and Taft men were busy lining up their delegates.

In January, the Republican State Central Committee met in Detroit to choose a temporary chairman for the coming Bay City Convention. United States Senator Townsend was selected but announcement was made of the election of Truman H. Newberry of Detroit, instead. At the time, this mistake was not contested by the Taft men, although it must have been known that Mr. Newberry was favorable to the Roosevelt forces, being not only a warm personal friend but also having served as Secretary of the Navy under Roosevelt while President.

The leaders of both factions were prominent men in Michigan politics. Honorable Gerrit J. Diekema of Holland, United States Congressman, was Chairman of the Taft forces with Mr. Paul H. King as Secretary. The Roosevelt men were led by Mr. Frank Knox of Sault Ste. Marie, Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee for 1912 with Mr. Charles A. Nichols, Detroit City Clerk, as Secretary.

To this Bay City Republican Convention were to be elected 1,312 delegates from the counties. The counties held conventions to decide who their delegates would be to Bay City. These county conventions were forerunners of the struggle to come at the state convention.

In Wayne County both Taft and Roosevelt forces claimed the delegates. Spectacular charges were made by both sides but there was no law governing the caucuses and the men in charge of the precincts, the ward committee, seemed to have acted as they liked. The Wayne County Convention ended with both sides claiming Wayne's one hundred and ninety-two delegates to Bay City for their candidate.

Nor was Wayne County the only county to have difficulty electing delegates. The Calhoun County Convention was one big row—two conventions being held at the same time.

In Kent County, there was a battle but the Roosevelt men won.

With all this disagreement in the county conventions between the Taft and Roosevelt forces, the eyes of the state were focused on the Bay City Convention. Mr. Frank Knox, Chairman of the State Central Committee, was an out and out Roosevelt man; Mr. Paul King, the secretary, was an avowed Taft adherent.

It had been rumored that the slate of Roosevelt delegates was to "railroad" through the convention by acclamation vote. A committee went to Mr. Newberry, the temporary chairman, and asked if it were true that if the vote were loud enough the Roosevelt man would be declared elected. Mr. Newberry's answer was not very assuring. Mr. King called a special meeting of the State Central Committee that afternoon to consider the situation, Mr. Knox having refused to call it in his capacity as chairman.

Mr. Knox contended this session was illegal, that the secretary could call a meeting only if the chairman was absent or incapacitated. Mr. King claimed he knew of no such rule and quoted Mr. Diekema who had been chairman for ten years as agreeing with him.

The State Central Committee met. Sixteen Taft men were present, Chairman Frank Knox and the Roosevelt men absenting themselves because of the alleged illegality of the meeting. All contest of delegates was decided in favor of Taft. Next came the question of legality of selecting a new state central committee. Secretary King said the law was directory and not mandatory and that the election could be ratified at the fall convention to make it legal. Alex Groesbeck of Detroit was the unanimous choice for chairman replacing Frank Knox who was dropped. Mr. Grant Fellows of Hudson, was chosen to replace Mr. Newberry as temporary chairman because of Mr. Newberry's attitude toward a *viva voca* vote and his partisan feeling for Mr. Roosevelt.

The next act was the seizing of the Armory by the State Police to maintain peace. Mr. Lyle, the sergeant-at-arms, had heard the Roosevelt delegation from Detroit intended to storm

the Armory. Mr. Lyle, not to be outdone, sent forty or fifty men to hold the Armory. The State police ejected them and held control until the doors were opened the next morning.

Mr. King called another meeting of the State Central Committee the next morning and they proceeded to the Armory in a body. Captain Beckwith of the State police stalled admittance and the committee returned to the Wenonah Hotel where they held another meeting. They decided next to issue red tickets of admission to the Armory.

They again proceeded to the Armory. This time they were admitted, it was the scheduled time for the meeting. Mr. Knox was already on the platform. He was invited to preside but declined.

Mr. Lyle, meantime, was taking care of admissions. All doorkeepers were warned to admit only delegates having red tickets of admission and not allow admission to a "rump delegation" from Detroit that might try to storm the convention.

Finally, the doors were opened; when a Knox ticket came along, he was ejected without ceremony. The "rump delegation" from Wayne was late. They started at midnight the night before, but were sidetracked along the way, while the Taft delegation passed them.

Roosevelt delegates entered transoms over doors directly at the rear of the large stage. The Convention was called to order by the two chairmen and then pandemonium broke loose. Order was restored by the police.

The Roosevelt group held together. They declared the action of the majority of the State Central Committee illegal, declared their convention legal and elected six delegates to the Chicago Convention with instructions to vote for Roosevelt. They also agreed to take their case to the Credential's Committee at the Chicago Convention and announced unswerving fealty to the Republican party.

The Taft men held their convention and agreed to the same things within their group.

But neither side really had the better of the fray. The ma-

jority of the State Central Committee was for Taft and to carry out their desires unseated their chairman who had been elected for a two-year term. To do this they overrode their rules of procedure, which had been in force for years, on the technicality that the committee had never adopted them. They also did something never attempted by the Republican party in Michigan, when the majority of the Committee met and undertook to decide as to which of the opposing delegations from Wayne and Clinton counties should be seated. The procedure always had been for the convention to decide its own contests, the delegates from the contesting counties not being allowed to vote on the proposition.

The Roosevelt convention in its haste to name its delegates proceeded in a most irregular manner. No credentials were received. They simply voted to seat all uncontested delegates and the Roosevelt contestants from counties where two factions had chosen delegates, and then went ahead with the naming of the delegates at large.

And so Michigan went to the Chicago Convention entitled to six delegates at large which were contested by the Taft and Roosevelt delegations. It was up to the Credential's Committee to decide the merits of the case and to seat either one or the other of the delegations.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS—REPUBLICAN AND PROGRESSIVE

AT CHICAGO there was no reason to doubt the South controlled the convention and, under the system, were favorable to the Taft cause. Because of this system, the progressives advocated the direct primary.

Michigan's case for her six delegates at large was heard June 21, 1912. Mr. Paul H. King prepared the brief for the Taft forces. When the final vote was taken the Credential's Committee voted 34-14 to seat the Taft delegates from Michigan.

June 20, Roosevelt ordered the bolt in an address to dele-

gates and advisors. Roosevelt bolted, not on issues, but mainly on the method of Taft's nomination.

The Roosevelt men stayed on in Chicago and launched the Progressive Party. Bandannas were adopted as the battle flag because they stood for the plain people who would use them. The bull moose was the unofficial emblem. This gathering did nothing except to decide to call a National third party convention to be held in Chicago, August 5.

Michigan was ready for a new party and it was easy to start legally. The law required the candidates for state offices to file the names of three hundred qualified electors to entitle them to a place on the primary ballot. The nomination of district, county and city offices was even easier: Here were needed the names of but twenty-five qualified electors.

THE NOVEMBER ELECTION

MICHIGAN Roosevelt electors came home from Chicago. A call was issued for Progressive Republicans to meet in the Lansing Armory, July 5, to consider ways and means of a new party in Michigan.

Here were two viewpoints to be reconciled. Part of the Roosevelt men favored a complete third party. Their two leaders were Major Joslin of Adrian and Sybrant Wesselius of Grand Rapids. Others felt they should have a chance to vote for Roosevelt electors on a Republican stub ballot. To do this would have required a special session of the legislature to rush the bill through. Frank Knox and Governor Osborn favored the latter plan, not to split the Republican party, but the governor refused to call the legislature unless he was absolutely assured the bill would pass.

The general opinion of the assembly was that Governor Osborn should lead the progressives and become a candidate for the second term as governor. This he refused to do.

After a stormy session it was decided to hold a convention at Jackson, July 20, to nominate presidential electors, to perfect a state organization and draw up a platform.

At Jackson it was announced Roosevelt was in favor of a full third party ticket in Michigan. Electors were chosen, a platform of eleven points drawn up and a third party was launched in Michigan.

Governor Osborn still believed there was no enthusiasm over the new party and that the principles it stood for could best be accomplished inside the Republican party.

The first national convention of the Progressive party met in Chicago August 5, 1912. Theodore Roosevelt of New York and Hiram Johnson of California were declared presidential and vice-presidential candidates of the National Progressive Party.

Next to Illinois, Michigan had the largest number of delegates to the convention, over a hundred. However, all was not harmony. Although Michigan was the first state to hold a third party convention, its delegates were not even allowed to second the vice-presidential nomination. And then, Michigan was told Roosevelt could not afford to appear in Detroit because the organization was such that a big crowd could not be depended upon.

Michigan delegates came home from the Progressive convention and during August and September settled down to the business of spreading the principles of their cause and preparing for their state convention at Lansing to be held October first.

The Bull Moose Convention was different from most state conventions. There was no sergeant-at-arms, no delegate tickets and the galleries were thrown open to the public. A platform of twenty-two points was adopted. A legislative committee was appointed to keep an eye on the legislators to be sure they did not dodge issues. In the August primaries, L. Whitney Watkins of Jackson had been nominated for governor and now a complete state ticket was named to accompany him.

The November election showed the great personal following of Colonel Roosevelt; he captured Michigan by a plurality of

62,340 votes. In the state offices, the Progressives did not fare so well. A Democrat, Woodbridge N. Ferris, became governor and the rest of the state offices were captured by the Republicans with a comfortable majority. A few Bull Moosers did gain legislative seats.

AFTERMATH IN MICHIGAN

THE Bull Moose were not disheartened by election returns. A national meeting was called for December 10, to be held in Chicago, to consider the permanency of the organization. The Michigan Bull Moosers returned jubilant and determined to hold their next state central committee meeting in Bay City in February.

A Michigan Progressive League was formed which was to be a permanent organization to keep things moving all over the state and to see that county, city, township and ward tickets were to be placed in the field in future elections. This league was to be subsidiary to the state and national organizations with its main purpose to keep in touch with the voters and provide funds for the campaign.

This determination of the Bull Moose had a chastening effect on the Republicans who were afraid of a permanent split in the party. However, they had to wait for spring elections to tell the story.

The Republican controlled legislature became a little more liberal. Progressive Republicans formed a small group to wrest control of the state convention from reactionaries.

The State Republican Convention met. Turmoil was expected because the Old Guard were in the majority. But harmony reigned. The Republicans had gone progressive; issues, not men, had been considered. Little bitterness was shown and the Republican party had gone far to rehabilitate itself in Michigan.

The state convention of the National Progressive party was also a harmony session. They adopted a seven point platform and nominated a state ticket.

The spring election of 1913 was expected to forecast the fate of the Progressive party and it would show the true strength of Michigan Bull Moosers without the magic name of Roosevelt. The Republicans won every state office, running ahead of the Progressives by 70,000-90,000 votes. Even the Democrats ran ahead of the Bull Moose by at least 40,000 votes. The following progressive amendments were voted by the people: initiative, referendum and recall.

1914 was rather a quiet year for the Bull Moose. Henry R. Pattengill, the Progressive candidate for governor, received only 7,000 primary votes in comparison with Chase S. Osborn, the successful Republican, who received 58,405. The November elections were even more humiliating than the primary. Not one office went to the Progressives. The Progressives were losing strength every election.

The liberalizing of the Republican party plus their continual pleadings for a united party and the fact that the magic name of Roosevelt was not on the ballot probably accounted for the Progressive defeat.

In January, 1915, the Progressives of Bay County met in the office of Luther B. Beckwith. After a very frank discussion and without one dissenting vote, they decided to again become affiliated with the Republican party. They would still advocate progressive principles but would seek reform within the Republican party.

At the state Republican Convention in 1915, the *Lansing State Journal* reported:

A glance at the personnel of the various county delegates demonstrates beyond question the fact that the National Progressive party has lost some of its strongest adherents.

In 1916 the national convention of the Bull Moose was held in Chicago at the same time as the Republican Convention. When Roosevelt declined the nomination as president, the Progressive National Committee met and by a vote of 31-15 agreed to dissolve the party.

A belligerent Bull Moose group met in Detroit July 8, 1916,

to consider what was to be done with the party in Michigan. Some joined the Democrats, some wanted to organize a new third party.

But try as they would, this small group could not bring back life to a dead Bull Moose. The magnetic personality of Theodore Roosevelt as well as the stand-pat reactionary attitude of the Michigan Republican party had almost swept the Bull Moose into power in 1912. But parties based on personalities do not stand the test of time and each election as the Republican party grew more liberal, saw the diminishing power of the Michigan Bull Moose until the dissolution of the national party in 1916 caused the state party to break up and enter no candidates in the local elections. So ended the careers of a most picturesque party and a most dominant man.

INDUSTRIAL FREMONT—PAST AND PRESENT

BY HARRY L. SPOONER

Peoria, Ill.

BEFORE Fremont and vicinity was settled by the white people a considerable Indian settlement had grown up. Indians had taken government patents on much of the land north and east of Fremont Lake and for a mile south of the city along the present Stuart Street, then called Indian Town road.

The first white settlers, Daniel Joslin and the Herrington brothers, came in 1854 and built their cabins near Elm Corners. They did not remain long where they first settled, but they were on the ground when the Daniel Weaver and Wilkes Stuart families arrived.

With the coming of the Weavers and Stuarts in 1855, the permanent settlement of the community began. At first taking up more than a thousand of acres of land together, these two families divided the land between them. The Stuarts were interested primarily in farming while the Weavers thought of industry and trade. Therefore the Stuarts took the lands to the east around Elm Corners and the Weavers took those to the west, which were more rough but had a stream suitable for water-power mills. From this time to the present, agriculture on the one hand and industry and trade on the other have characterized the growth of the Fremont community.

Weaver lost no time and built a water-power saw-mill on the north edge of the city in 1855 and this started the lumber industry for which the city became famous in its early days. The virgin pine which stood where most of the city is now located was felled and cut into lumber. In the spring of 1856 Weaver sold 100,000 feet of this pine lumber to a company in Newaygo at \$22 a thousand feet at a time when ordinary pine was bringing only \$5 a thousand.

Fremont was in 1940 the Host city of the 66th annual convention of the State Historical Society, at which meeting this paper was read by a native son, Mr. Harry Spooner, who is working on an extended history of Newaygo county.

This mill burned in 1859. Weaver sold the site to Henry Darling, who rebuilt it. It burned again in 1863 with a loss of \$1200. Darling sold the site to J. B. Jewell in the early 70's. He rebuilt the mill and operated it until 1893.

Although it had the old-fashioned flutter saw, the water power was not sufficient for operating both the saw and a windlass to drag the logs into the mill from the pond at the same time. Therefore a few logs were brought in at a time, the saw was then started up, and when the log supply was exhausted, the saw stopped and another lot of logs was brought in. In spite of the slow operations of the mill, many thousands of feet of lumber were cut and the fragrant lumber piles were for years a familiar sight. The old mill stood for many years after it ceased operations and formed a convenient place for boys to change their clothes when going swimming in the pond, which was for years a favorite swimming place. A few timbers of the old mill may still be seen beneath the waters of the creek near the present city pumping plant.

In 1864 Darling built another water power saw-mill on the same creek near Fremont Lake, on the present Henry Rozema farm. The mill burned Feb. 16, 1870, with a loss of \$5,000. About two months later, April 11, 1870, Darling sold the mill site and dam to Hiram Jones. Jones rebuilt it and operated both a saw-mill and handle factory, making broom handles and cant-hook handles. He operated it for a few years and then went out of business. For years the skeleton of the old mill building remained. A portion of the old dam of this mill is still visible just to the right of the road running west from the Rozema place.

The next entrant into the lumber business was Kornelius Mulder. He came from Muskegon in 1873 and erected a saw, shingle, and planing mill on the present Fremont Lumber & Fuel Co. grounds. It burned in 1881 but he rebuilt all but the planing mill. He operated the mill until 1906, when it was purchased by the Fremont Lumber & Fuel Co.

In 1874 James Gibson built a saw and stave mill near the

old Hillyard produce house, now the city market. It furnished a spectacular fire at one time, when Muskegon was asked for aid and in less than an hour after sending the call a fire engine from the Sawdust City was playing a hose on the flames, having come on a flat car on a special run. The mill was discontinued about 1890.

Also, in 1874 Merchant & Hungerford had a large saw-mill where the Blandford Pickle Co. is now located. It operated for many years—until the cessation of lumber activities. I well remember the old mill. It had a large circular saw, but, large as it was, some of the logs brought to the mill were too large for the saw. Many red oaks had to be split into four parts by the use of dynamite in order to be sawed. The mill was torn down about 1895.

A few years after the Merchant & Hungerford mill was built, a shingle-mill was built adjacent to it, near where the present office of the Blandford Pickle Co. is located. It was built by Heenan & Childs, of Muskegon. It was later sold by them to a man named Torrent (likely John Torrent, of Muskegon) and in 1882 he sold it to Richard Ryerson, father of Martin A. Ryerson of this city. He operated it for two or three years. It was later used for a year or two as a potash factory. I remember well when I was about five years old of wagons going around to residences and collecting the wood ashes for the factory. It laid idle a short time and then Elias Strunk and Vet Curtis used it as a carpenter shop for a year or two. A few years later it was torn down.

Early in the 80's, W. F. Pumpfrey and P. S. Castle built a planing mill. This was on the present grounds of the Fremont Canning Co. It was afterward used as a factory for making patent nail-keg heads by a group of local residents. Later it became a part of a furniture factory.

George Burns, Sr., and W. F. Pumpfrey built a saw-mill in 1888 about where the garage of the Fremont Canning Co. is located. Later Pumpfrey withdrew from the firm and it became George Burns & Son. The latter was William J. Burns.

This property was sold to the Fremont Canning Co. when the latter was established and the mill was torn down.

In 1906 the Fremont Lumber & Fuel Co. came into being. It took over the old Mulder saw-mill and yard. Cornelius Gerber has been president of the company since it started. William J. Burns acted as manager until his death in 1925.

In addition to these mills in the city, there were several others within a few miles which made Fremont their shipping point. Then, there were several lumber firms that bought and sold lumber. Prominent among these were J. R. Dudley & Son, Dudley & Myers, John De Haas, James Darling, Ryerson, Davis & Cole, and Emil Kempf. Harlan J. Dudley had one mill that cut nothing but hemlock 2 x 4's ten feet long. Dudley long carried the nickname of Two-By-Four-Ten Dudley.

Two other industries dependent upon the splendid forests contiguous to Fremont also were built. One of these, the Fremont Furniture Co., was organized with local capital in 1890. Joseph Gerber was President and Harlan J. Dudley, secretary. They converted the old Pumpfrey & Castle mill into a factory. It was re-organized a year or two later into the Fremont Manufacturing Co. It could not compete, however, with cities having more favorable shipping facilities and it soon closed.

The other industry was the tannery of D. Gerber & Sons. It opened for business in 1874. The real prosperity of the city began with the founding of this establishment. From its opening until it was sold to the Michigan Tanning & Extract Co. in 1907, it was in constant operation, in good times and bad, making Fremont one of the most prosperous small towns in the country. The new owners went to some expense in joining the city in building a filtering plant, but they found it was not profitable and closed it in 1920.

In 1925 the boarding house built by the last owner was occupied by the Balba Laboratories as a perfume factory. This enterprise lasted only a year or two.

From the time Daniel Gerber & Sons built the tannery in 1874 until the present time, the Gerber family have been very

closely identified with the prosperity of Fremont. Five generations of Gerbers have contributed their means and abilities to furnish employment for a large portion of the population of the city.

Their greatest achievement is the Fremont Canning Co. This concern was started in 1901 as a stock company with a capital stock of \$20,000. The stock was held by farmers and local business men. A. O. Hoyt was the first secretary. The old plant of the Fremont Manufacturing Co. was converted into the factory. H. T. Babbitt was employed as manager. For two years the concern was moderately successful. Then, due to inadequate management, the business got into a rather hopeless financial situation.

In 1903 Frank Gerber was elected to the Board of Directors and he, with W. F. Reber and Joseph Gerber, made up the executive committee. Frank Gerber now devoted a portion of his time to the active management of the business and in two years had wiped out the deficit of the previous years and showed a small profit. In 1906 he was elected treasurer and manager and from that time on has given his full time to the business. In the meantime, the stock of most of the farmers had been purchased. Joseph Gerber was president from 1908 until 1917, when at his passing, Frank Gerber succeeded to this position.

In 1914 the old frame building was wrecked and a new three-story brick building made possible the canning of other than fresh products, so that the concern could operate the year round.

In 1926 Dan Gerber's oldest daughter, although only a baby, contributed to the success of the concern by making it necessary to have fresh, strained vegetables for her diet. Gerber's baby foods were born from this necessity. After two years of experimenting they were placed on the market in 1928. They are now known all over the world.

The products manufactured at present are a complete line of general canned foods except corn, 14 strained foods, 8 junior

foods, and dry cereal. The present authorized capital stock is \$1,000,000, with \$955,700 actually paid in. Various additions have been made to the plant from time to time. About 300 employes work full time, with 300 to 600 more during seasonal packs. The office force now numbers about 65. The officers are: President, Frank Gerber; Vice-president, Dan F. Gerber; Secretary, Lester Janes; Treasurer, Wm. A. Mee.

Daniel Weaver, the man who started the lumber industry in Fremont, also started the flour milling industry. By 1866 he had started to build a flour-mill where the Hardy, Messinger & McGowan service station is now located. When the frame was up, he deeded the property to Henry Mallory. Mallory finished the building and sold it to Frank Boone. In 1883 Boone sold it to Darling Milling Co., of which James H. Darling was president. About 1896 it was sold to Frank Bunker, who converted it into a steam mill. It burned while he had it in 1912 and a feed mill known as the Yellow Mill was built by Tom McBride and Joe Gerber, Jr., on the property. A short time later Joe Gerber sold his interest to Frank Bradway. In 1923 Bradway sold his interest to McBride. McBride later erected a small frame building on the triangular piece of ground adjacent to the mill at the corner of Main and State streets to use as a gasoline station. In March, 1928, Messinger, Hardy & McGowen bought the gas station property and operated the station. In October, 1934, they purchased the remainder of the property, tore down the yellow mill and the old gas station and erected the present super service station, which they still own. It is at present leased to Harry Westra.

In 1886 William A. Anderson, who had operated a saw and flour mill at Aetna, sold out and built the Crescent Flour Mills. By 1901 he had sold the mill to H. A. Brown. In 1903 Brown sold it to Wolters Brothers and Joseph Wolters became sole owner in 1920. He passed away in 1938 and his sons, Albert and Peter, now operate the mill.

Several other concerns depending upon the agricultural resources of the community have contributed to Fremont's pros-

perity. The Heinz Pickle Co. built a large salting station here in 1900. This has been operated each year since. Originally it was in the Grand Rapids district. In 1914 it became a part of the Big Rapids district and in 1923 it was made headquarters of the Fremont district. In the latter year, R. O. Staley was transferred from Indiana to Fremont as head of the Fremont district. This district has shown a steady growth. Mr. Staley says that they have found Fremont a good place to live and to do business—that business dealings with merchants and farmers have been very pleasant and he hopes to continue in business here for many more years.

In 1918 Blandford & Buskirk built a pickle factory where the old Merchant & Hungerford saw-mill had been. Two years later the concern was re-organized into the Blandford Pickle Co., Mr. Buskirk withdrawing from the firm. This concern has since done a good business. It was sold the current year to C. C. Lang & Son. Don Holler is manager.

Simon Hagadorn, before the turn of the century, had built a creamery on the banks of the Jewell mill pond. It burned, and he, in company with others, built the Crystal Springs Creamery on Oak Street. For years he was said to have known every cow between the Muskegon and Pere Marquette rivers by name.

The Fremont Creamery Co., a stock company of farmers, was organized in 1904. It has been very successful. It now makes a half million pounds of butter and 80,000 pounds of powdered buttermilk each year. Evert Hall is the present manager.

During the late 90's there were two firms operating apple evaporating plants in Fremont. One of these, operated by John Cullen, was located where the Fremont Lumber & Fuel Company's coal bins are located, near the depot. The other was located in the building which later became the Fremont Canning Company's boarding house. These plants operated only two or three seasons.

The Fremont Dairy is the latest processing plant to be built

in Fremont. It was built in 1936 and is a strictly modern plant in every particular. Erwin Griswold is the proprietor. He has been in the dairy business for 16 years in Fremont. The plant now handles about 314,000 quarts of milk yearly, of which 67,000 quarts are used raw and 247,000 quarts are pasteurized. It takes 104 cows to furnish the supply, all of which are located within a radius of two miles from the city.

Several small plants of various kinds have operated in Fremont at various times. Benjamin Alton had a brick yard east of the city at a very early day. James H. Darling had one adjacent to the Jewell mill yard during the time the Darlings operated the mill. In the 70's George N. Wade operated a brick yard back of the present high school building on lots now owned by Clyde Oneal. The brick for the original high school building, built in 1876, came from this yard.

During the late 80's, D. Gerber & Sons were manufacturing a fertilizer called Michigan fertilizer from the fleshings of their tannery but it did not prove profitable and was discontinued.

William Lovelace in the 90's had a small shop where he made cant-hook handles and other turned items on a wood lathe. It later became part of the Fremont Canning Company's boarding house.

During the late 70's or early 80's, Dolph and Will Bryant and their father had a soft drink factory on West Elm street. They made root beer which they put up in quart stoneware jugs.

While Fremont has been very fortunate in an industrial way, this prosperity would have been impossible without the cooperation of the farmers and the laboring people of the community. All its industries have been dependent upon the soil—first the natural native products, trees, and second, the cultivated plants.

The farmers of the Fremont section have always been of more than average intelligence, ambition and thrift. Among these have been many people of Holland descent. These people

began coming in a very early day and ever since have left their impress upon the country. They have converted thousands of acres of what was once considered worthless lands into beautiful, productive farms. In addition to farming, many of them have been prominent in business, civic, and political affairs.

The same thing is true of Fremont's laboring men. Nowhere in the United States or any other country are the laboring people of any higher class than those in Fremont. Through the character of its inhabitants, Fremont is known as a model industrial and commercial city.

PIONEER HEALTH
PREVAILING DISEASES AND HYGIENIC CONDITIONS
IN EARLY MICHIGAN

BY EARL E. KLEINSCHMIDT, M. D., DR. P. H.

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INTRODUCTION

TO VISUALIZE properly the foundation upon which the public health movement has been built in Michigan, one is compelled to seek those sources of information which throw light on prevailing diseases and hygienic conditions in the early pioneer days of this state. Most of this information is obtainable from transactions of local and state medical societies, papers appearing in the several medical journals, and numerous historical accounts. Careful study of these sources of information leads one to the conclusion that public interest in matters of prevailing diseases and hygienic conditions had its inception about the middle of the nineteenth century.

If one may judge from such evidence as these materials afford, it can be concluded that Michigan was considered a most unhealthful state.¹ It is not at all surprising, therefore, that emigrants on their way westward deliberately avoided settling there because of its reputedly unhealthful climate.² This opinion, the sources declare, was prompted in part by "interested" persons who tried assiduously to create the impression that "this state was less healthy than some of her compeers in the West".³ On one occasion, so the reader is reminded, government officials, sent to this state to investigate its healthfulness, returned to Washington and reported that it was not worth the taking.⁴

As to the prevalence of diseases during this early period, which might justify study, many accounts are available, chief-

¹*Annual Report, Michigan State Medical Society, I (1859), 20.*

²*C. B. Burr, Medical History of Michigan, (St. Paul, 1930), I, 684.*

³*An. Rep. M.S.M.S. op. cit., 20.*

⁴*MacClure, op. cit., 33.*

ly in the form of committee reports of local medical societies. Typical of the descriptions is one found in an article written by Dr. Zina Pitcher of Detroit entitled, "Forms of Diseases in Detroit from January, 1852, to December 31st, 1852". He gave the following diseases—arranged in order of their importance—as being the most prevalent in his "practice":

January,	1852,	Puerperal fever, erysipelas, typhoid fever.
February,	1852,	Uterine phlebitis, erysipelas, typhoid fever.
March,	1852,	Erysipelas, typhoid fever, puerperal fever.
April,	1852,	Erysipelas, typhoid fever, puerperal fever.
May,	1852,	Puerperal fever, typhoid fever.
June,	1852,	Typhoid fever, dysentery.
July,	1852,	Dysentery, typhoid fever.
August,	1852,	Typhoid fever, dysentery, erysipelas
September,	1852,	Dysentery, puerperal fever, erysipelas.
October,	1852,	Typhoid fever, dysentery, erysipelas.
November,	1852,	Typhoid fever, dysentery, erysipelas.
December,	1852,	Dysentery, typhoid fever, erysipelas, scarlet fever. ⁵

Another typical account of prevailing diseases is that of Dr. C. H. Sackrider of Mason. In a letter written to Dr. G. E. Corbin, Chairman of Committee on Diseases and Topography of Livingston and Ingham counties, he described the following diseases as being most prevalent in his "practice":⁶

January	—Pleuritis, pneumonia, bronchitis, rheumatism, erysipelas.
February	—Pneumonia, pleuritis, catarrh, rheumatism, erysipelas.
March	—Pneumonia, ague, neuralgia, bronchitis, carbuncle.
April	—Pneumonia, pleuritis, intermittent fever, chlorosis.
May	—Intermittent fever, pneumonia, pleuritis, neuralgia.
June	—Remitting fever, intermittent fever.
July	—Dysentery, diarrhea, remittent fever, intermittent fever.
August	—Billious remitting fever, dysentery, intermittent fever.
September	—Dysentery, intermittent and remittent fevers.
October	—Typhoid fever, tonsillitis, remittent fever, pneumonia.

Other excellent reports of diseases prevailing at this time (1850-60) would include those by Dr. J. E. Beech of Coldwater before the annual meetings of the State Medical Society in

⁵*Detroit Review of Medicine and Pharmacy*, (October, 1866), 291.

⁶*Peninsular and Independent Medical Journal*, I (1858), 16.

1856, 1857, and 1858;⁷ one by Dr. Zina Pitcher at the annual meeting of the State Medical Society in 1857;⁸ one by Dr. C. E. Corbin on the "Diseases and Topography of Livingston and Ingham counties",⁹ and many others¹⁰ of scarcely less importance made at local and state medical society meetings.

Some diseases such as the malarious fevers, dysentery, rheumatism, pneumonia, pleurisy, cholera infantum, and croup, were present during most of the year. There was a constant and unvarying succession of inflammatory diseases in the winter, and malarious fevers of varying severity during the remaining three seasons of the year which, with dysentery and infantile summer complaint, constituted most of the diseases.¹¹

MALARIA, THE BANE OF ALL PIONEERS

It was the universal lot of people, especially those entering the state for the first time, to suffer from recurring attacks of fever and ague.¹² At times half of all the beds in the hotels and taverns of Detroit were occupied by sick people.¹³ An appreciation of the extent of these attacks is present in a descriptive account by Dr. C. H. Sackrider of Mason, Michigan. In a letter written to a friend, Dr. G. E. Corbin, he said,

"The prevailing diseases are Intermitting and Remitting fever, Bilious Pneumonia, Diarrhea, Dysentery, and Rheumatism. These are prevalent; but, as additional, we have more or less of the whole nosological list under our care at one time or another, and nearly all diseases are modified by the ever present genius of evil—Malaria."¹⁴

This dread disease was the bane of all pioneers.¹⁵

As late as 1881 malaria was still believed to constitute over fifty per cent of the total sum of illness in the state.¹⁶ Small wonder that Michigan became generally known in this country

⁷*Peninsular Journal of Medicine*, III (1856), 496; *ibid.*, IV (1857), 540; *Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1858), 143.

⁸*Pen. J. Med.*, V (1857), 250.

⁹*Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1857), 16.

¹⁰*Ibid.*, 13; Burr, *op. cit.*, 679-795.

¹¹*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, III, 152.

¹²*Loc. cit.*

¹³*Ibid.*, 153.

¹⁴*Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1858), 13.

¹⁵Burr, *op. cit.*, 681. The term malaria was used to designate a large number of febrile diseases.

¹⁶*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, IX, 63.

as the home of malaria.¹⁷ According to Dr. C. B. Burr of Flint, "Nothing was more common * * * than chills and fever, and among the occasional causes of death in the neighborhood would be noted 'congestive chill', the precursor of malignant intermittent or remittent fever."¹⁸ Enlarged spleens, or "Ague-cakes" as they were called, were common.¹⁹

Most of the commoner febrile diseases during the decade after the mid-point of the century showed a tendency toward periodic recurrence. The tendency is well brought out in a report made in January, 1858, by Dr. C. M. Stockwell of Port Huron before the State Medical Society in which he said,²⁰

"The diseases of the entire district are markedly of a periodic type, exhibiting all the varied gradations of which the higher latitudes are susceptible, from pure ague to the severe forms of Pernicious fever, or 'Congestive Chills,' as popularly termed."

With the arrival of summer, the occurrence of malaria became inevitable. "No sooner had the rain subsided, and the intensely hot days of June and July made their appearance, than sickness, in the forms of intermittent and remittent fevers appeared," writes Dr. E. Leach in a paper presented before the Seventh Annual Meeting of the State Medical Society in 1859. "From this time till the first of October," he continues,²¹ "there was hardly a family in which some one of its inmates did not suffer to a greater or less extent from the epidemic. In many families all were prostrated at once, while in others, one would no sooner be able to leave his bed, than his place would be promptly supplied by another, and so on until all had suffered from the disease."

Discouraging as these circumstances must have been, clearing of the land and the digging of drainage ditches brought about remarkable changes. Physicians of the period were firm in their belief that improvement could be brought about only by such efforts. No less an authority than Dr. H. F. Lyster of

¹⁷MacClure, *op. cit.*, 33.

¹⁸Burr, *op. cit.*, 681.

¹⁹*Loc. cit.*

²⁰*Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1858), 140.

²¹*An. Rep. M.S.M.S.*, VII (1859), 46.

Detroit declared that, because of the drainage of the land, all forms of malaria diminished fully seventy-five per cent in and around Detroit over a period of twenty years from 1854 to 1874.²² Speaking before the Detroit Academy of Medicine in 1871, Dr. Lathrop of Detroit voiced a similar judgment. He said, "Principally, however, the disappearance of malaria is due to the cultivation of the lands around the city (Detroit) and their drainage by canals dug for that purpose. At all events it is universally admitted that there is not as much malarious disease here as there formerly was."²³ That Dr. Lathrop's opinion was held by others living elsewhere in the state is shown by the following remarks taken from a letter Dr. Brownell of Utica wrote Dr. H. F. Lyster in 1874: "Malarial diseases here have been gradually diminishing. I have seen the time when fully 75 per cent of all sickness had its origin in malaria. This change is due, in my judgment, in no small degree, to the artificial drainage which has been carried out in this portion of the state."²⁴ Besides drainage and clearing of the land, boiling of the water was also practiced to lessen the amount of fever. This was carried out in Dearbornville at the suggestion of Prof. Samuel P. Duffield of Detroit, who, as he explained it, "urged the necessity of all using boiled water to destroy the micro-germs of malaria."²⁵ Despite these improvements, however, malaria was destined to remain a health problem for many years to come.²⁶

TYPHOID FEVER

Besides malaria, there were many other diseases to tax the energies of the earlier residents of this state. Frequent outbreaks of typhoid fever, diphtheria, smallpox, scarlet fever, measles, and whooping cough occurred in all sections of

²²*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, II, 53.

²³*Det. Rev. Med. and Pharm.*, VI (1871), 452.

²⁴*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, *op. cit.*, 52.

²⁵*Det. Rev. Med. and Pharm.*, *op. cit.*, 491; Laveran discovered the malarial parasite on November 23, 1880.

²⁶*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, X, 537. (The five diseases causing the most sickness in the state in 1881 were: intermittent fever, rheumatism, bronchitis, neuralgia, and remittent fever).

the state. Cerebro-spinal fever and influenza epidemics visited the state on several occasions.

Although the early accounts of typhoid fever fail to give the reader any definite idea of the exact extent of the disease, nevertheless, there is abundant evidence that the disease prevailed in nearly every community. Over a period of sixteen years extending from 1867 to 1882, the vital statistics gathered by the state at that time show that 7,957 people died of the disease.²⁷ In 1886, Dr. V. C. Vaughn estimated that a thousand people died annually from the disease.²⁸ Beginning with the annual report of 1873, each year found numerous accounts of typhoid outbreaks reported to the State Board of Health.²⁹

Another disease, very similar to typhoid fever, but possessing characteristics also of the malarious fevers, enjoyed considerable notoriety among the people of the state. This was accordingly designated as "typho-malarial fever". It occurred particularly in August and September. Although causing symptoms very similar to typhoid fever, it was considerably different, not only in the pathology created, but because a more favorable outcome was generally assured.³⁰

Prior to 1875 a form of congestive fever undoubtedly of malarial origin prevailed about Detroit and the southeastern part of the state known as "Maumee" or "Lake fever". This extended usually from July to October. Remittent in nature, it was very often complicated by hemorrhages from the lungs and bowels.³¹

DIPHTHERIA

According to Dr. Henry B. Baker, Secretary of the State Board of Health, diphtheria epidemics occurred regularly in Michigan ever since 1865.³² In 1869, the Secretary of State reported a total of 89 deaths as having occurred during the year.³³ With the establishment of the State Board of Health

²⁷*Ibid.*, XII, 92.

²⁸*Ibid.*, XV, 1.

²⁹*Ibid.*, IV, 11; *ibid.*, XII, 287; *ibid.*, XIII, 276.

³⁰*Ibid.*, III, 153.

³¹*Ibid.*, III, 152.

³²*Ibid.*, XIII, 228.

³³*Loc. cit.*

in 1873, this disease was found to be much more extensive than had been previously ascertained. From its records it is learned that 1,473 deaths from diphtheria were reported to the State Board of Health in 1879³⁴, 1,542 deaths in 1880,³⁵ and 905 deaths in 1884.³⁶ The picture was very much the same during the entire period under consideration. In Grand Rapids alone, according to Dr. Melle Veenboer, "Seventeen victims of diphtheria were sacrificed monthly in a population of about 30,000, that being about forty-two per cent of all cases reported."³⁷

Accounts of diphtheria outbreaks fill many pages of the annual reports of the State Board of Health. One of the more interesting of such accounts is that of Dr. H. G. Hawley, Health Officer of Newfield Township, Oceana County. His letter, written to Dr. Henry B. Baker, Secretary of the State Board of Health in 1881, reads as follows:

Dear Doctor:

A Mr. F., of this place, lost five out of seven in his family, and the R. family lost four in their family. I attended the first two that died in this family. They live about four and a half miles from town. The sanitary condition is very bad. The spring out of which they use water for all purposes is at the edge of a small swamp, through which the highway runs, is surrounded by small hills, and has no surface outlet; and the stable-yard is on the side of the hill, the drainage all running into the swamp near the spring, and the family is not very clean.

The house that the F. family occupied is built on springy ground, and the cellar and the grounds below the house are always wet. The W.S.C. family live about one-half mile from the village, south. They lost six out of their family; had seven. I did not attend this family. House very cold, and the water used by the family is surface water. Three of the children were buried in one grave, at once. Five in my family have had the diphtheria, and all recovered. I attended very particularly to the sanitary condition, and have with all of the cases that I have had charge of; have had the rooms well ventilated, and use care in giving medicine and applications, never using the same dish for more than one patient prepared for * * *. From one of my boys I took a sloughed membrane, from each nostril, two and a quarter inches long and as large as could be passed out, very tough and spongy.

³⁴*Ibid.*, IX, 377.

³⁵*Loc. cit.*

³⁶*Ibid.*, XII, 255.

³⁷*Ibid.*, X, 135.

I have had forty-three cases, and lost four. The schools have all been closed for some time, but have now commenced again. There are no new cases in this vicinity.

Yours very truly,

DR. H. C. HAWLEY,
Health Officer of Newfield Township
Oceana County.³⁸

Hesperia, Oceana Co., Mich., Feb. 15, 1881.

Another interesting account of the manner in which the disease was controlled is provided the reader in the letter of James Heaton, Health Officer of Bunkerhill Township, Ingham County, to Dr. Henry B. Baker:

Dear Doctor:

There is a family located on Section 18 (farm marked W. W. Fisk, on county atlas), township of Bunkerhill, Ingham Co., Mich., who are suffering from diphtheria. There have been six deaths in the house in a few days. I have been informed today that the township board of Bunkerhill talk of burning the house; they meet tonight to decide the matter. Now, will not the burning of this house endanger the whole settlement? Most of the neighbors have large families, and I am afraid the smoke will endanger the health of the people.

Yours,

JAMES WHEATON.

Leslie, Ingham Co., Mich., Jan. 12, 1881.

It is of interest to know that in replying to this inquiry Dr. Baker advised that the house be thoroughly disinfected with burning sulphur "whatever the decision as to the burning the house".³⁹

SMALLPOX

Smallpox existed in Michigan as early as the first settlement of the territory.⁴⁰ Although prevalent to a much less degree than some of the diseases already mentioned, it nevertheless took many lives. The following table compiled by Dr. Henry B. Baker, Secretary of the State Board of Health, provides us with some idea of its prevalence:

³⁸*Ibid.*, IX, xlvii.

³⁹*Ibid.*, IX, xlv.

⁴⁰*Ibid.*, XIII, 264.

Deaths from Smallpox in Michigan⁴¹

Year	Deaths
1869	42
1870	9
1871	73
1872	302
1873	90
1874	18
1875	26
1876	76
1877	102
1878	6
1879	6
1880	3
1881	82
1882	100
1883	5
1884	3

Despite the extent of the disease, Dr. Arthur Hazelwood of Grand Rapids, a member of the State Board of Health in 1876, remarked, "Fortunately, in Michigan, we have been exempt from any severe visitation of smallpox; yet, occasionally a few lives are sacrificed upon its altar, some every year. The numbers are too few to make conclusions from."⁴²

Efforts at getting people vaccinated were generally received with little enthusiasm. At a meeting of the State Medical Society in Detroit on January 20, 1858, Dr. Samuel N. Axford, Committee on Vaccination, urged that legislation be enacted making vaccination compulsory.⁴³ Apparently these efforts were only partially successful, for it was contended by physicians at a meeting of this same society in 1868 that "no action was necessary by the Society, because a law existed enforcing vaccination before children could be admitted to the public schools, though it was admitted that it was very loosely observed."⁴⁴ At this same meeting, a committee consisting of Drs. Ranney and Bartholomew of Lansing, and Topping of DeWitt were appointed by the President of the Society, Dr. J. H. Jerome, to confer with the legislature on the subject of

⁴¹*Ibid.*, XIV, 179.

⁴²*Ibid.*, IV, 30.

⁴³*Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1858), 25.

⁴⁴*Proc. Mich. State Med. Soc.*, I (1867 and 1868), 38.

vaccination.⁴⁵ This action followed closely upon a debate prompted by an assertion of Dr. Henry F. Lyster of Detroit that vaccination was generally neglected—"we see growing up from one third to one half the children utterly unprotected from the smallpox".⁴⁶ Others at this meeting, notably Dr. William Brodie of Detroit, objected strenuously, claiming that vaccination was well attended to in Detroit.⁴⁷

In the *Detroit Commercial and Advertiser* of December 9, 1871, there appeared the following notice:

Smallpox—Notice to Citizens

The following communication has been received from the president of the Board of Health, and is published for the information of citizens:

By direction of the Board of Health, I desire to call public attention to that fact that smallpox, which is prevailing so extensively in some of our sister cities, has made its appearance in Detroit. Precautionary measures should at once be taken to prevent its spread, and the Board of Health recommends a prompt and general vaccination.

D. O. FARRAND, M. D.,
President of the Board of Health.⁴⁸

In commenting upon the epidemic which followed this notice, Dr. Frank Livermore, speaking before the Detroit Academy of Medicine, said, "Since the first of January, 1872, seventy-nine cases have been reported to the President of the Board of Health."⁴⁹

As intimated in the aforementioned notice, considerable smallpox was brought into the state by emigrants arriving at Port Huron and Detroit.⁵⁰ Instances of this fill many pages of the annual reports of the State Board of Health.⁵¹ It was this disease which later led to the establishment of emigrant inspection service in the state.⁵²

As a rule, attempts were made to get people vaccinated whenever a general epidemic threatened. In 1876, the city authorities of Detroit provided two thousand dollars with which to

⁴⁵*Ibid.*, 41.

⁴⁶*Ibid.*, 82.

⁴⁷*Ibid.*, 38.

⁴⁸*Detroit Commercial and Advertiser*. (Dec. 9, 1871), 1.

⁴⁹*Det. Rev. Med. and Pharm.*, VII (1872), 203.

⁵⁰*Trans. Mich. State Med. Soc.*, VI (1886), 296.

furnish vaccination to those who could not pay for it. The six city physicians, together with a number of medical practitioners as assistants, were directed to visit every family in the several districts affected, and vaccinate those persons who were not recently vaccinated.⁵³

Far in advance of his times, Dr. J. H. Beech of Coldwater advocated a plan of vaccination which would do justice to some of the methods carried out today. This he described in a presidential address made before the fifth annual meeting of the State Medical Society at Ann Arbor in 1857:

In the winter months of each year make a memorandum of each infant, (drawing from our obstetric record) who has attained the age of two months or upwards and of every family whom we believe, we should be required to attend, if variola should invade the circle and call upon them, stating to the parents or guardian that our sense of duty compels us to offer vaccination, and if they object, or if the present time is inconvenient, urge them to secure its benefits from some source without much delay. We may find a few "mulish" and jealous in which case all our arguments may be pressed with warmth, preserving our dignity by politely withdrawing ourselves from the case.⁵⁴

With the establishment of the State Board of Health, prevention of smallpox was given considerable emphasis.⁵⁵ That efforts in this direction were successful may be concluded from an assertion made in 1886 by Dr. Henry B. Baker, Secretary of the Board, that "1,073 lives were saved during the first eleven years of the work of the State Board of Health."⁵⁶ A gradual reduction in the extent of the disease was everywhere apparent despite frequent outbreaks in nearly all communities.⁵⁷

SCARLET FEVER

Another disease which the State Board of Health labored to reduce was scarlet fever. This disease was the cause of widespread distress. The following table attests to its ravaging effect on the children of the state:

⁵³*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, V, 107.

⁵⁴*Pen. J. Med.*, X (1857), 534.

⁵⁵*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, I, 11.

⁵⁶*Ibid.*, XIV, 107.

⁵⁷*Ibid.*, XI, 104.

Year	Deaths
1869	252
1870	852
1871	696
1872	565
1873	580
1874	440
1875	423
1876	399
1877	404
1878	429
1879	418
1880	370
1881	383
1882	592
1883	673
1884	326
<hr/>	
Total	4,857 ⁵⁸

Frequent outbreaks of this disease were fairly common. In 1885, for example, there occurred in Michigan 356 outbreaks in 356 localities, 2,750 cases and 287 deaths;⁵⁹ in 1886, 368 outbreaks were reported in 302 localities with 3,046 cases and 275 deaths.⁶⁰ Such was the appalling picture! That mortality from this disease was even worse than the foregoing figures would seem to indicate is inferred from an assertion made by Dr. Richard Inglis of Detroit, who, on one occasion said, "There can be no doubt that a large number of those cases attributed to drowsy ought to have been credited to scarlet fever."⁶¹

Despite the extent of the disease, the public remained quite apathetic.⁶² Restrictions were not put on communication between infected families and others, nor did Boards of Health issue any warning against the disease. For this laxity, Dr. Inglis criticized them bitterly: "In our midst is a permanent scourge worse than the dreaded cholera itself, almost unnoticed, except as a blighted household tells that the destroyer has passed that way."⁶³ Nor was the public entirely at fault

⁵⁸*Ibid.*, XIV, 177.

⁵⁹*Ibid.*, 216.

⁶⁰*Loc. cit.*

⁶¹*Det. Rev. Med. and Pharm.*, VI (1871), 539.

⁶²*Ibid.*, 540.

⁶³*Loc. cit.*

for the spread of the disease. Some physicians, as late as 1871, were of the opinion that isolation of patients was unnecessary, claiming that the disease was not contagious.⁶⁴

MEASLES

Measles, a disease similar to scarlet fever, was paid little attention until the State Board of Health started collecting morbidity statistics. In 1884, we are informed that there were 2,178 cases of measles and 33 deaths in 131 different localities reported to the Secretary of the State Board of Health.⁶⁵ In 1885, the number fell to 673 cases and 19 deaths,⁶⁶ only to rise in 1886 to 2,192 cases and 29 deaths in 91 different localities.⁶⁷

WHOOPIING COUGH

Of whooping cough very little mention is made in early literature. Because of its regular appearance each year, people became accustomed to it.⁶⁸ From the annual report of "Diseases in Michigan", however, it is learned that in 1886 there occurred 2,642 cases and 62 deaths in 157 localities.⁶⁹ This number is fairly representative of all years in the period (1850-1888).

CHOLERA

In 1849, and again in 1850, cholera was epidemic in Detroit.⁷⁰ It had, however, occurred sporadically ever since 1832 when the disease was first brought to the city on the steamboat *Henry Clay*.⁷¹ Following this occasion, in 1849, the Board of Health had printed a public notice advising those who were unable to obtain professional aid to take "fifteen or twenty drops of laudenum * * * to be repeated in one or two hours, according to circumstances."⁷² To this, the editors of the *Michigan Journal of Homeopathy*, Drs. Ellis and Thayer, took exception. In an editorial appearing in their journal

⁶⁴*Ibid.*, VII (1872), 84.

⁶⁵*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, XII, 289.

⁶⁶*Ibid.*, XIII, 280.

⁶⁷*Ibid.*, XIV, 238.

⁶⁸*Ibid.*, III, 154.

⁶⁹*Ibid.*, XIV, 239.

⁷⁰*Pen. J. Med.*, I (1853), 197.

⁷¹Stephenson, *op. cit.*, 36.

⁷²*Michigan Journal of Homeopathy*, I (1848), 44.

shortly after the appearance of the aforementioned notice, they said:

Gentlemen of the Board of Health, are you not yet satisfied with the use of opium in the treatment of diarrheas? For more than three thousand years has this remedy and its preparations been used, in the treatment of these diseases, yet how generally do they fail to cure. * * * To the endless condemnation of your treatment, perhaps, not less than one half, or even two thirds, have gone down to their graves, hurried onward by your opium! opium!! opium!!! treatment, with astringents and calomel thrown in. Is this the encouragement you have to offer, and the result which you desire to see imitated? Talk of curing cholera by your treatment, when you cannot even control an ordinary diarrhea resulting from change of climate, and water, a disease which even homeopathic laymen controlled readily, simply with a domestic book and case of medicines, and which homeopathic physicians found little trouble in curing even when of weeks standing. * * * In view of the probable appearance of the cholera in Detroit within the next few months, and of the fact, that from fifty to eighty out of every hundred attacked die under every method of treating, this disease cannot be discovered. Why let your patients die without doing anything for them? We have given, and shall continue to give you in our Journal, the result of the homeopathic treatment of this disease, and not only so, but likewise some idea of the treatment itself.⁷³

Several months later on May 19, 1849, upon the invitation of the Board of Health to members of the medical profession of the city to suggest measures for the control of the impending epidemic, Drs. Ellis and Thayer sent the following communication to the Board of Health:

Gentlemen: We notice in the published report of the proceedings of your last meeting, an invitation to medical men of this city to meet with you, or make such suggestions in writing as they may deem essential, in view of the probable appearance of cholera among us.

We approve of this opportunity with pleasure, and will take the liberty of offering a few suggestions. We will here say, that we heartily agree with the many sanitary suggestions that have been made, and are being vigorously carried out by your body, for the thorough cleaning of the city, not only as it relates to Cholera, but to every other disease. But cleanliness alone, although it may mitigate the severity, never prevented the spread of smallpox or scarlet fever, or any other contagious or epidemic disease of a specific origin. Such disease must be met by a specific capable of protecting the system against the influence of the noxious cause. The proper specific remedy is

⁷³*Loc. cit.*

that which is capable of producing similar symptoms in the healthy subject, to those of the disease we wish to guard him against. For instance: Smallpox is prevented by vaccination, Scarlet Fever is prevented, or materially modified, by Belladonna, with certainty. Cuprum and Veratrum are recommended as preventives of the Cholera, from the fact that they produce similar symptoms. * * *

We feel it our duty to recommend the above remedies to your attention. We do so with the same confidence that we should recommend vaccination for the prevention of smallpox. We regard it as the most certain measure that can be adopted to prevent the spread of the Cholera. * * *⁷⁴

To offset, perhaps, any possible criticism of their method, these gentlemen printed the following announcement in their mouth-piece, the *Michigan Journal of Homeopathy*:

HOMEOPATHIC DISPENSARY

Corner of Woodward Avenue and Congress Streets.
AT THE OFFICE OF DRS. ELLIS AND THAYER

Homeopathic remedies, for the prevention and cure of cholera, will be furnished gratuitously during the prevalence of this disease to those who are unable to pay. Open day and night.⁷⁵

The disease finally made its appearance, but the available literature fails to disclose what action the Board of Health took in the treatment of the disease. In the words of Dr. Henry F. Lyster of Detroit, "It was very fatal and prevailed extensively, but was much more amenable to treatment than in any former year."⁷⁶

Elsewhere in the State, particularly at Sandusky, the disease caused much distress. People became frantic. In the words of one of the physicians living at that time, Dr. C. Hastings, "The panic here on the advent of cholera was truly alarming, but weak comparatively, with the mania which they had for a variety of nostrums which have a local celebrity for the prevention and cure of cholera, and which were used by them in a manner and a freedom that has no parallel." One-half of the population fled the city; in the month of July, 1849, alone,

⁷⁴*Ibid.*, 9.

⁷⁵*Ibid.*, 170.

⁷⁶*Am. Rep. S.B.H.*, III, 153.

three hundred and fifty deaths occurred from the disease in a population of 2,800.⁷⁷

The cholera epidemic of 1854 cost Detroit approximately a thousand lives, according to Dr. Zina Pitcher.⁷⁸ His article, "The Cholera of 1854," offers the student of medical history a rich field in which to explore.⁷⁹ Apparently the sanitary condition of the city received considerable blame for this epidemic. "When the presence of cholera in Detroit became a matter of public notoriety," said Dr. Pitcher,⁸⁰ "the sanitary police of the city were in a wretched condition, * * * nuisances existed in almost every direction notwithstanding the facilities for their abatement." It was during this epidemic that Professor Charles Fox, Professor in the Agricultural Department of the University of Michigan, and editor of the *Farmer's Companion and Horticultural Gazette*, died of cholera.⁸¹

Elsewhere in the state the disease prevailed to a lesser degree.⁸² In Ann Arbor, eleven persons died, six of whom were emigrants.⁸³ In Port Huron, only one case occurred. This was explained by Dr. C. M. Stockwell of that city as being due to the porosity of the soil which favored the absorption of dew and rain, and also permitted the "washing away of the fungoid growths, or germs * * *." Failure of the development of the cholera miasm was also given as a possible explanation for the absence of the disease around Port Huron.⁸⁴

In the fall of 1865, Michigan was again visited by cholera. With a view towards preventing a repetition of the calamity of 1854, the Board of Health of the city of Detroit held a meeting on September 7, 1864, to take precautionary measures to abate nuisances, and to otherwise prepare for the impending epidemic. Dr. William Brodie, President of the Board, called attention to the unsanitary conditions brought to his

⁷⁷*Mich. J. Hom., op. cit.*, 114.

⁷⁸*Pen. J. Med.*, II (1854), 150.

⁷⁹*Loc. cit.*

⁸⁰*Pen. J. Med., op. cit.*, 149.

⁸¹*Ibid.*, 96.

⁸²*Ibid.*, 94.

⁸³*Ibid.*, 112.

⁸⁴*Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1858), 142.

notice. Many of the streets and alleys abounded in filth, he said, and only two of those he had visited were clean. He warned that the city should be thoroughly cleaned as a precautionary measure. Aldermen, he suggested, should make personal surveys of sanitary conditions in their wards.⁸⁵ Following a discussion of the city sewers, the following resolution was offered by a Mr. Knight and adopted by the Board:

Whereas, From the incomplete state of our system of lateral sewerage, and the extensive neglect of the proper and decent drainage of private premises, the present sanitary condition of the city is such as to invite the approach of pestilence; and

Whereas, in order to be effectual, it is highly necessary that the required lateral sewers should be constructed before the commencement of the next winter, in order that the citizens may have a proper opportunity to make connections with such sewers; therefore

Resolved, That in view of the present sanitary condition of many of the streets, alleys, and blocks of the city, it is indispensable that the system of sewerage be hastened to perfection in all settled neighborhoods;

Resolved, That all parties be notified as soon as may be by the proper authority, to drain their premises thoroughly into the nearest sewer which may be reasonably accessible, and that all such drains shall be fitted with a stench trap;

Resolved, That the committee on Health of the Common Council be a committee in connection with the City Counsellor, to adopt a system of procedure, to carry out the foregoing resolutions, and to recommend such action as may be necessary, to the Council.⁸⁶

Acting on the suggestion of President Brodie, another resolution was offered by Alderman Meldrum which asked that "the Health Inspectors of the several wards be, and are hereby requested to examine carefully into the sanitary condition of their wards, ascertaining the possible sources of disease on private premises, as well as the streets and alleys * * *."⁸⁷ Still another significant resolution was offered by a Mr. Brooks and adopted by the Board. This gave notice "That the Board of Police Commissioners are respectfully requested to detail at least one additional member of the Police force to examine and make report of all nuisances throughout the city, and they

⁸⁵*Detroit Advertiser and Tribune*, XXIX (Sept. 8, 1865), 1.

⁸⁶*Loc. cit.*

⁸⁷*Loc. cit.* (This resolution was approved at a meeting on Nov. 11, 1865).

cause all cases requiring action on the part of the Board or the Common Council, to be reported to the Clerk."⁸⁸ Both of these latter resolutions were tabled temporarily.⁸⁹

At a later meeting of the Board on November 10, 1865, President Brodie recommended the appointment of a committee to report the causes that promote the spread of disease, and measures for their removal. He also pointed out as a subject for consideration the many rotten and decaying sidewalks in the city. To care for those who would become ill of cholera, he advocated the establishment of a city dispensary to which people could come for treatment.

Acting on the suggestion of President Brodie, Dr. Zina Pitcher offered a resolution which in turn was adopted by the Board. This called for the appointment of a committee to make a sanitary survey and "to suggest for their adoption such measures as in the judgment will most effectively promote the public health, and prevent the introduction and spread of that appalling disease." Dr. Pitcher was made chairman of this committee.⁹⁰

Two weeks later, this committee made the following report:

1. We would advise the appointment of a Health Physician to cooperate with the sanitary inspectors, whose duty it should be to thoroughly explore the whole city and keep the Board of Health and Common Council fully informed of its sanitary condition.
2. It is recommended that the occupants of all premises contiguous to the sewers be required to drain them by making connections therewith.
3. It is suggested that the city authorities cause all hydrants which allow water to escape upon the surface of the ground to be repaired.
4. We earnestly advise that the ordinance in relation to privies be rigorously enforced, by requiring them to be drained into the sewers or thoroughly cleansed.
5. Where occupants or owners of premises are known to be unable to incur the expense of draining or cleansing them we would aid them by an appropriation of the public funds or by making an appeal to private munificence for their relief.⁹¹

⁸⁸*Loc. cit.*

⁸⁹*Loc. cit.*

⁹⁰*Ibid.*, (Nov. 11, 1865), 1.

⁹¹*Ibid.*, (Nov. 24, 1865), 1.

Efforts of the Board of Health to get assistance from other city departments met with considerable success. At the meeting held November 11th, the Police, Water and Sewer Commissioners were present at the invitation of the Board of Health. They participated in the discussion which ensued and offered many valuable suggestions. *The Detroit Advertiser and Tribune*, commenting on the meeting, said, "This meeting of the Board of Health must result in great good to the city."⁹²

Appeals were made to the citizenry to cooperate with city officials in the work of cleaning up the city. Several thousand copies of a circular prepared by a committee of the Board of Health were distributed in the city.⁹³ The editor of one of the leading newspapers wrote as follows:

CHOLERA

We trust that the authorities and citizens of Detroit will do their utmost to thoroughly cleanse every portion of the city. Every citizen has a direct interest in this matter. The cholera permits no one to repeat Cain's question: "Am I my brother's keeper?" with impunity. Personal cleanliness is not enough; the air laden with the impure vapors which reek from filthy alleys and stagnant pools in the remotest parts of the city may bring the pestilence to inhabitations in which the utmost cleanliness prevails. An appeal to the people of Detroit to see that every portion of the city is thoroughly cleansed is an appeal not merely to the philanthropy, but the desire of personal safety of every citizen.⁹⁴

Physicians were also exhorted through the columns of the *Detroit Review of Medicine and Pharmacy* "to be faithful to their responsibilities as conservators of the public health, by making felt, each in his own circle of influence, his testimony to the efficacy of obedience to the laws of hygiene, in avoidance of the dangers dreaded."⁹⁵

The idea of Dr. Brodie relative to the establishment of a city dispensary became a reality on April 12, 1866, when a meeting was called for the establishment of the "Detroit City

⁹²*Loc. cit.*

⁹³*Loc. cit.*

⁹⁴*Ibid.*, (Nov. 18, 1865), 2.

⁹⁵*Det. Rev. Med. and Pharm.*, I (1866), 84.

Dispensary Association." The following gentlemen were elected trustees of the association: Hon. M. I. Mills, Jacob S. Farrand, Wm. A. Butler, H. P. Baldwin, Zina Pitcher, M. D., A. C. McGraw, Wm. Brodie, M. D., C. Van Huse, F. Buhl, Morse Stewart, M. D., John J. Bagley, E. W. Jenks, M. D., Moses Gunn, M. D., M. W. Brooks, and J. H. Jones. The object of this association was stated as follows:

The object of this association is to form a Medical Dispensary where the poor of our city can be provided with medicines gratuitously. Several physicians have already signified their willingness to donate their professional services for the use of those of that portion of our community who are unable to pay for medical attendance, so that in case the cholera visits our city, all of our citizens will have an opportunity to protect themselves, as far as possible, against the ravages of the scourge. It is designed to have this dispensary supplied with a complete stock and assortment of medicines; and the expenses of the enterprise are expected to be borne partly from voluntary contributions. It is also hoped that the Common Council will make a liberal appropriation which will go far to lessen the expenses.⁹⁶

During the summer and fall of 1885 the ravages of cholera in Europe created a general fear in the United States that the disease would be brought here the following year.⁹⁷ In Michigan, the danger was considered great because of previous experiences with the disease.⁹⁸ Anticipating the possibility of such an epidemic, a conference of state boards of health was held in October, 1885, at St. Louis, Missouri. At this meeting Dr. Henry B. Baker, Secretary of the Michigan State Board of Health took a prominent part. As Chairman of the Committee on Practical Means of Preventing the Introduction and Spread of Cholera in the United States, he submitted a plan which was adopted by representatives of all state boards of health in attendance.⁹⁹

At another meeting of delegates from state boards of health, called two months later on December 10, 1885 in Washington, Dr. Baker was again honored. On this occasion he was named

⁹⁶*Ibid.*, 85.

⁹⁷*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, XI, 196.

⁹⁸*Ibid.*, XIII, p. xlii.

⁹⁹*Ibid.*, XIII, p. xxxvi.

to the Committee on National Action for the Prevention of Introduction of Cholera into the United States.¹⁰⁰ During the deliberations of this conference, Dr. Baker reported on the preparations which were being made in Michigan to meet the threatened invasion of cholera.¹⁰¹

The program in Michigan consisted mainly of the distribution of documents on the "Prevention and Restriction of Cholera."¹⁰² Twenty thousand copies were ordered distributed by the State Board of Health to local health officers and others associated with public health work.¹⁰³ They were urged to prevent and abate all nuisances, attend to drains, sewers, privies, and cesspools. These instructions were based on rules drawn up by Drs. Henry F. Lyster and Henry B. Baker of the State Board of Health.¹⁰⁴ On July 7, 1885, the State Board of Health voted that if cholera made its appearance in Michigan, the secretary was to confer with local authorities about stamping out the disease, or to send some competent person to do so.¹⁰⁵

On March 3, 1886, a case of cholera was reported to Dr. Baker by Dr. W. B. Abbott, health officer of Pinconning.¹⁰⁶ In his investigation, Dr. Baker found that the patient had partaken of some fresh raisins which had recently been received from Valencia, Spain. As cholera was quite prevalent there, it was assumed that the infection was transmitted in this manner.¹⁰⁷ No further cases were brought to the attention of the State Board of Health.

As a result of the sanitary improvements brought about in the state in preparation for the possible invasion of cholera, all forms of communicable diseases were greatly reduced in number.¹⁰⁸ Apparently this phenomenon had considerable effect in

¹⁰⁰*Loc. cit.*

¹⁰¹*Loc. cit.*

¹⁰²*Ibid.*, p. xxxiv.

¹⁰³*Ibid.*, p. xii.

¹⁰⁴*Ibid.*, XII, p. xli.

¹⁰⁵*Ibid.*, p. xxiii. The Hon. Josiah W. Begole, retiring governor of Michigan, recommended an appropriation for an epidemic contingent fund (An. Rep. S.B.H., XIII, 196).

¹⁰⁶*Ibid.*, XIV, p. xliii.

¹⁰⁷*Ibid.*, p. xlv.

¹⁰⁸*Ibid.*, XIII, 191.

giving impetus to the movement for sanitary improvements in the state.¹⁰⁹

MENINGITIS

During the winter of 1847 and 1848 the inhabitants of Michigan were visited by an epidemic known as brain or spotted fever, or, as it was later called, cerebro-spinal meningitis. Dr. Zina Pitcher wrote, "the population of Detroit suffered more than their rural neighbors."¹¹⁰ Again in 1872 it appeared in epidemic form, coming in the winter of 1872 and 1873 and continuing into the summer of 1873.¹¹¹ It was particularly severe in Monroe and Lenawee counties where 88 cases occurred. Dr. Baker of the State Board of Health made an extended study of this outbreak.¹¹²

In January, 1879, a severe form of influenza made its appearance in the state. This continued until April of the same year.¹¹³

TUBERCULOSIS

Of the extent of tuberculosis in the period under consideration, very little evidence is available in the reports. In 1879, Dr. H. B. Baker compiled the following table of information:

Ratio of Deaths from Pulmonary Consumption to Deaths from
all Causes in Michigan in the Years 1871-1878

Year	Per Cent
1870	13.47
1871	13.39
1872	10.97
1873	10.15
1874	11.14
1875	12.34
1876	12.64
1877	12.88
1878	12.85 ¹¹⁴

Interest in the scientific aspects of tuberculosis took form at an early period. In a paper entitled "Tuberculosis, its Causes, and Indications for its Treatment", Dr. Henry Goadby

¹⁰⁹*Loc. cit.*

¹¹⁰*Pen. J. Med.*, I (1853), 197; *An. Rep. S.B.H.*, III, 152.

¹¹¹*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, III, 154.

¹¹²*Ibid.*, II, 117-194.

¹¹³*Ibid.*, VIII, 457.

¹¹⁴*Ibid.*, VIII, 39.

of Detroit declared, "it has fallen to my lot to examine the substance of 'tubercle' microscopically on a great number of occasions. I have never seen but one uniform result, viz.: that tubercle consists entirely of the disintegrated and decomposed tissue in which it is found to be situated, whether, Lung, Liver or Intestine."¹¹⁵ In 1857, Dr. A. B. Palmer of Detroit called attention to the occurrence of tuberculosis in children.¹¹⁶ Emphasizing the curability of consumption, Dr. N. Williams of Ionia, speaking before the Ionia County Medical Society, said, "Most emphatically, therefore, do I dissent from the conclusion, that because a patient has recovered, he could not have had Consumption—to this 'we demur' in legal parlance. On the contrary, I am satisfied that most physicians of experience have witnessed instances of its cure. For one, I have had cases in my own practice, and at least one of the kind now under treatment, and in an advanced state of recovery. * * * Under an appropriate system of treatment, many are the cases of consumption admitting a cure."¹¹⁷

OTHER DISEASES

In 1886, at a meeting of the National Conference of State Boards of Health, Dr. Henry B. Baker of Michigan, offered a resolution asking that this Conference go on record as favoring the destruction of sputa of tuberculous patients in order to restrict the disease. Following a discussion of the subject, the resolution was unanimously adopted.¹¹⁸

In 1866, Dr. Herman Kiefer of Detroit reported a case of trichiniasis in a young woman.¹¹⁹

A case of leprosy was brought to the attention of Dr. Henry B. Baker in 1884 by the local health officer of Menominee.¹²⁰

In discussing the prevalence of epidemics in and around Detroit since 1855, Dr. Henry F. Lyster said,¹²¹ "they have

¹¹⁵*Pen. J. Med.*, III (1855), 241.

¹¹⁶*Ibid.*, IV (1857), 1.

¹¹⁷*Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1858), 33. The belief that consumption was incurable was generally prevalent among physicians. (*Ibid.*, 31).

¹¹⁸*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, XIV, 186.

¹¹⁹*Det. Rev. Med. and Pharm.*, I (1866), 1.

¹²⁰*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, XII, p. xxxvii.

¹²¹*Ibid.*, III, 154.

been less frequently met with within the last twenty years (1855-75), and those that have occurred have not been of so fatal a character as in former times. A much larger proportion of those taken ill recovered in the cholera of 1852 and 1854, than in the epidemic of 1832 and 1834. The same is believed true regarding the two epidemics of cerebro-spinal meningitis. Although dysentery and erysipelas prevailed annually in former years, and in certain seasons very generally, we are not aware that either ever appeared in an epidemic. Diphtheria, though not visiting us annually occurs in much greater frequency in some winters than in others; and may be found at times in different wards of the city; yet it has not been seen generally epidemic."

THEORIES AS TO THE CAUSE OF DISEASE

One of the most promising fields of labor for the hygienist is, it seems to me, in the still further prevention of sickness and deaths from miasmatic causes.

—H. O. HITCHCOCK, M. D.,
President, State Board of Health, 1876.¹²²

In the absence of scientific explanations for the spread of prevailing diseases, many theories were evolved to explain their cause. In general, disease was ascribed to the presence of filth of one kind or another and to poisonous gases coming from such accumulations. Diseases belonging to this category were commonly spoken of as "miasmatic" diseases. One of the most popular beliefs of the time lay in the concept that filth accumulations were the cause of all epidemic diseases. On the occasion of the annual meeting of the State Medical Society at Detroit in 1858, Dr. W. W. Hippolite of that city declared, "In those places that have the greatest accumulations of filth, you will find the greatest mortality among the inhabitants during the prevalence of epidemics; and the rate of mortality is in exact proportion to the uncleanness, other things being equal. And so it is with individuals,—those who have the greatest accumulation of decomposing matter in their

¹²²*Ibid.*, IV, 5.

blood, are the ones who are soonest attacked by disease and removed by death, upon the accession of an epidemic."¹²³ Decaying vegetable matter and decaying wood in the open air were thought to give rise to noxious gases which caused certain zymotic diseases.¹²⁴

Decaying sidewalks in particular came in for considerable discussion. These were thought to give rise to various diseases, particularly the malarious fevers. The cause of typho-malarial fever was commonly attributed to the slow decomposition of wooden sidewalks, wooden sills of dwellings, flooring of cellars; decomposing vegetable tables and fruits in cellars were also blamed.¹²⁵ On the occasion of a meeting of the Detroit Academy of Medicine in 1871, Dr. E. W. Jenks, President of the Society, declared:

In our city the seasons and the pavement have much to do in diminishing or increasing malarious disease. I have a patient who, for a long time, has in no way been exposed to the action of malaria; is living in the same place she has for years without the slightest symptoms of intermittent fever. Yet, during the past two weeks, she has rode out several times, passing and re-passing many of our streets that are tore up under the process of repaving, and the consequence is she has had an attack of intermittent, with two well marked paroxysms of fever. I am confident that the malarious poison that was let free along these streets was inhaled by her causing this disease.¹²⁶

In his presidential address before the meeting of the Sanitary Convention held at Battle Creek in 1881, Rev. D. F. Barnes said, "They ought to know that acres of decaying board sidewalk, in a city like ours, not half kept, are poisoning the very life of our humanity".¹²⁷

With the establishment of the State Board of Health, in-

¹²³*Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1858), 88. "One of the strongest arguments in favor of the zymotic theory of epidemic disease lies in the fact that all those conditions which most favor the reception and propagation of the zymotic poisons are conditions in which there is an undue accumulation of effete azotized matter in the blood, in a state of retrograde metamorphosis," said Dr. Hippolite. (*Ibid.*, I, 87).

¹²⁴*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, VI, 46. "When we shall have discovered the agent capable of neutralizing the poison of one of them in the blood, we shall have an agent valuable in all the incipient stages," said Dr. E. P. Christian of Detroit. *Det. Rev. Med. and Pharm.*, I (1886), 296.

¹²⁵*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, II, 54.

¹²⁶*Det. Rev. Med. and Pharm.*, VI (1871), 456.

¹²⁷*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, IX, 94.

quiries were soon received asking that something be done about the practice of laying wooden pavements in the cities of the state.¹²⁸ Acting upon these inquiries, Dr. H. O. Hitchcock, Committee on Disposal of Excreta and Decomposing Organic Matter, sent a circular to all of the regular correspondents of the Board as well as to the health officers of several of the large towns and cities, asking for information relative to the supposed relation between decomposing wood and certain zymotic diseases. Seventy replies were received. Fifty of the seventy correspondents and health officers replied that there was no relationship. To a question, "What classes of diseases have prevailed more along streets so paved?", none replied.¹²⁹

Several complaints were also received by the State Board of Health relative to the harmful effects of emanations coming from decomposing sawdust.¹³⁰ Reporting on this condition, Dr. J. H. Kellogg, Committee on Disposal of Excreta and Decomposing Organic Matter, declared before the Board, "We are thoroughly convinced that such a mass of decomposing sawdust as is often seen in the vicinity of saw-mills in lumber regions may easily contaminate the air for miles around and must exert a deleterious influence upon the health of those who inhale the poison-laden atmosphere."¹³¹

Sewer gas and emanation from the ground were also looked upon by physicians living in Detroit as disease-producing agents. The familiar odors of sewers and privies were looked upon as the sources of malignant cholera, cholera morbus, and malarious fevers.¹³² As there were no stench traps from the privies to the main sewers, the odors passed upward and were particularly noticeable during the evenings when the wind died down.¹³³ It was believed that the cause of disease remained suspended in the atmosphere. As Prof. Samuel P. Duffield of the Detroit Medical College expressed it, "The

¹²⁸*Ibid.*, IX, p. xxvi.

¹²⁹*Ibid.*, VI, 41.

¹³⁰*Ibid.*, VIII, 215.

¹³¹*Ibid.*, 217.

¹³²*Det. Rev. Med. and Pharm.*, IV (1869), 398.

¹³³*Loo. cit.*

'zoo germs' are carried into the blood through the lungs and developed in the system producing the ague, remittent, and other fevers."¹³⁴ Although unwilling to state outright that there were such things as germs, Dr. W. W. Hippolite of Detroit was of the opinion that "morbific agents of some kind are essential to the development of so-called zymotic diseases."¹³⁵

Emanations from the ground were looked upon as the cause of miasmatic diseases, more particularly malaria and cholera. "Comparatively few understand that when virgin soil is turned upward by the plow, and subjected to the rays of the summer's sun", said Dr. J. H. Jerome of Saginaw, "that from its surface malarial exhalations arise—when inhaled, poison the blood, and engender bilious disorders."¹³⁶ Emanations from the soil of basements were considered by some to be another source of disease, particularly if there happened to be any decayed vegetables or fruits thereabouts.¹³⁷ Apart from cellars, swamps and low river beds were regarded as breeders of malarious diseases.¹³⁸

The causes of cholera were generally believed to be the presence of a "certain mysterious condition of the atmosphere", and local conditions of filth and impure air.¹³⁹ In a report of the committee appointed by the Detroit Board of Health in 1865, it was declared by Dr. Zina Pitcher, its chairman, "that poverty, intemperance, ill-ventilation, the poison of undrained latrines, stagnant water, filth and fear are active causes of cholera either predisposing or exciting."¹⁴⁰

"Typhoid fever", said Dr. Leartus Connor, Lecturer on Analytical Chemistry in the Detroit Medical College, "seems to be produced by the decay of animal matter. In other cases it is plainly traced to the filth arising from defective sewerage and ill arranged water closets. It may and probably does arise

¹³⁴*Loc. cit.*

¹³⁵*Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1858), 82.

¹³⁶*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, IX, 45.

¹³⁷*Trans. M.S.M.S.*, VI, (1886), 272.

¹³⁸*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, VI, p. xxxiv.

¹³⁹*Det. Adv. and Tribune*, XXX (Nov. 8, 1865), 2; *ibid.*, 1.

¹⁴⁰*Ibid.*, 1.

from other causes which we do not understand."¹⁴¹ Dr. Henry B. Baker was of the opinion that the contagium of typhoid fever was "capable of reproduction, not only in the human organism, but also outside the body in decomposing organic matter having certain constituents whether derived from the animal or of the vegetable kingdom."¹⁴² At a meeting of the American Public Association at St. Louis in 1884, Dr. Baker delivered a paper entitled, "The Relation of the Depth of Water in Wells to the Causation of Typhoid Fever". He is quoted as having said, "it appears that in Michigan there is a relation between low water in wells and the prevalence of typhoid fever."¹⁴³ On one occasion following an investigation of an epidemic of typhoid fever at Adrian, Dr. Henry F. Lyster of the State Board of Health, Committee on Epidemic, Endemic and Contagious Diseases, asserted that the cause of the epidemic was "apparently of spontaneous origin, and not dependent on any anterior case."¹⁴⁴ To this Dr. Baker took extreme exception.¹⁴⁵ On investigation, he found that a Dr. Stephenson had seen several cases in the same neighborhood the year previous. The cause of the epidemic was found to be a privy vault about twenty feet distant from the contaminated well.¹⁴⁶

The causes of diphtheria were almost legion, judging from the accounts found in the reports. Some physicians in the state believed that it developed spontaneously. In response to a circular of inquiry sent out by the secretary of the State Board of Health to health officers and correspondents, Dr. W. F. Formad of Lansing replied, "we observed spontaneous diphtheria in rabbits, chickens, and rats at times when no diphtheria had been about for months, or not at all, and when no possible source of contagion could be discovered."¹⁴⁷ Others attributed it to "dampness in house", "unhealthy surround-

¹⁴¹*Detroit Review Medicine and Surgery*, VI (1871), 394.

¹⁴²*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, IV, p. lxiv.

¹⁴³*Ibid.*, XII, 93.

¹⁴⁴*Ibid.*, 45.

¹⁴⁵*Ibid.*, 46.

¹⁴⁶*Ibid.*, 41.

¹⁴⁷*Ibid.*, XI, 56.

ings", "exposure", "sudden change of temperature", "local causes", "bad sanitary conditions", "impure water and damp cellars", "impure water from ponds where logs were floating", "stagnant water", "decaying vegetables", "filth", "decaying log house", "living on swampy ground"; or we are told that "the family where it originated was the filthiest of the filthy", etc.¹⁴⁸ "The specific cause of diphtheria", said Dr. Henry B. Baker, "is probably thrown off in the urine and faeces, consequently the excreta thus infected cannot be expected to sustain the same relation to the causation of diphtheria as does ordinary excreta from healthy persons."¹⁴⁹ In 1884, it was the general opinion of most physicians in the state that the disease was contagious.¹⁵⁰ One of the physicians, Dr. R. P. Beebe of Union City, replying to the aforementioned circular stated that "diphtheria could be prevented if vegetable matter was not allowed to decay around houses so as to contaminate water and air. I am quite positive on the last, from a few cases of observation", he said.¹⁵¹ At one of the regular meetings of the State Board of Health, Dr. J. H. Kellogg declared, "It is probable that the air of sewers may become contaminated by the diphtheric poison when diphtheria is prevalent in the city and may thus become a vehicle for the extension of the disease."¹⁵² Non-use of milk was given by another physician as the cause of diphtheria.¹⁵³ In an article appearing in 1883 on the "Present Knowledge of Diphtheria", Drs. J. H. Kellogg and John Avery of the State Board of Health asserted that micrococci were an essential part of the diphtheritic process.¹⁵⁴

It was common belief among people that certain trees known as *Eucalyptus Globulus* would neutralize the poisons coming from vegetable decomposition and emanations from the earth. According to Dr. H. O. Hitchcock of the State Board of Health, "it was thought that the leaves of these trees emit-

¹⁴⁸*Ibid.*, XIII, 232; *ibid.*, XII, 259; *ibid.*, XI, 57.

¹⁴⁹*Ibid.*, XI, 87.

¹⁵⁰*Ibid.*, XII, 259.

¹⁵¹*Ibid.*, XI, 18.

¹⁵²*Ibid.*, 65.

¹⁵³*Ibid.*, 18.

¹⁵⁴*Ibid.*, 45. Drs. Wood and Formad of Lansing believed that the micrococcus of diphtheria existed in two states: active and passive. (*Ibid.*, 65).

ted an odor having antiseptic properties. The strong 'camphoraceous' odor was thought to destroy the miasms by reason of its antiseptic properties."¹⁵⁵ These trees were thought to purify the air by absorbing or neutralizing the miasmatic mists, particularly those causing malaria. They were commonly spoken of as "malaria-eaters, or killers".¹⁵⁶ The State Board of Health at one time became very interested in determining whether they could be successfully grown in Michigan.¹⁵⁷ Dr. Caulkins of Thornville stated in a letter to Dr. Henry B. Baker, secretary of the State Board of Health, that "A screen of trees should be left to the west and south of every house, in the country at least, to filter the malarial poison out of the atmosphere."¹⁵⁸

In 1877, it was the common belief that cancer was caused by tomatoes.¹⁵⁹ On receipt of a communication¹⁶⁰ from Dr. C. W. Marvin of Ithaca which suggested that there might be a casual relation between the use of tomatoes as food and cancer, Dr. H. O. Hitchcock, Committee on Epidemic, Endemic, and Contagious Diseases, sent a circular to the regular correspondents of the State Board of Health asking for their opinions. Sixty replied, all of whom agreed that "no facts had been observed to justify the somewhat general impression."¹⁶¹

Various were the ascribed causes of tuberculosis. "Inheritance, improper or improperly prepared food, insufficient clothing, deficiency of fresh air, effect of other diseases, overcrowding, injurious occupation, want of exercise, over-work in ill-lighted and ill-ventilated rooms and factories, badly lighted and ventilated schools, dwelling upon undrained soil, exposure to too much moisture, exposure to too much dust, and particularly of mineral, animal, and vegetable matter in the trades, and the abuse of alcohol" were cited by Dr. Henry F.

¹⁵⁵*Ibid.*, IV, 7.

¹⁵⁶*Ibid.*, IX, 63.

¹⁵⁷*Ibid.*, IV, 7.

¹⁵⁸*Ibid.*, IX, 66.

¹⁵⁹*Ibid.*, VI, p. lv.

¹⁶⁰*Ibid.*, p. li.

¹⁶¹*Ibid.*, p. 25; *ibid.*, VI, p. xxi.

Lyster as being the leading causes of this disease.¹⁶² A most interesting explanation of the cause of tuberculosis is provided in the following remarks by Dr. Henry Goadby of Detroit in 1855:

It invariably happens in patients having a tendency to this disease, that the vital powers are depressed, and the circulation feeble. The heart, in fact, has not sufficient power to propel the blood throughout the capillary plexuses which eminently distinguish the tissues, the subjects of this disease. * * * The circulation, therefore, fails to reach the ultimate capillaries throughout the pulmonary tissue, and if it fail for only a short space of time, what must be the inevitable result? Evidently, the circulation being once cut off, the part is left to die, and dying must succumb to the laws which regulate all dead matter; that is to say, it must be decomposed, and ultimately removed by absorption.¹⁶³

In 1881, Dr. J. H. Kellogg, member of the State Board of Health, expressed himself as follows: "When we add to the consideration the fact, now well recognized, that one of the most prolific causes of consumption is the breathing of air which by previous breathing has become charged with organic poison, can we wonder that pulmonary tuberculosis, that dreadful scourge, yearly sweeps away so many of the most promising and talented of our friends and fellow-citizens?"¹⁶⁴ Pneumonia, a disease somewhat akin to tuberculosis was thought to be due to "carbonic acid and other impurities in the air of rooms not as well ventilated in winter as in summer."¹⁶⁵

"The miasms of wet, undrained lands," said Dr. Hitchcock, president of the State Board of Health in 1876, "which might, by well-planned draining, be made salubrious and pro-

¹⁶²*Ibid.*, VIII, 39; in 1883, Dr. R. P. Beebe of Union City, Michigan, wrote, "I think if better ventilation could be had in our houses and school buildings, it would prevent some chronic diseases, as tuberculosis and scrofula." (*Ibid.*, XI, 18).

¹⁶³*Pen. J. Med.*, III (1855), 242.

¹⁶⁴*Proc. Michigan Sanitary Convention.* (Flint) 1880-4, 19.

¹⁶⁵*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, VIII, 446.

ductive, are now carrying, needlessly, to the grave hundreds of persons in this state every year."¹⁶⁶

MEDICAL INTEREST IN PREVAILING DISEASES

As wicked dew as e'er my mother brushed
With raven's feather from unwholesome fen;

* * * * *

And all the infections that the sun sucks up
From bogs, fens, flats.¹⁶⁷

Interest in the extent of prevailing diseases has been shown by the medical profession ever since the organization of the American Medical Association in 1847.¹⁶⁸ Committee reports dealing with this subject filled much of the time devoted to the annual meetings of this Association.¹⁶⁹ By 1858, many pages were found in the transactions of the Association on the subject of hygiene and sanitation—"over five hundred to hygiene including the sanitary condition of many of our large cities; * * * and two thousand to Practical Medicine, including the epidemics and Prevalent Diseases of nearly every state in the Union."¹⁷⁰

At the sixth annual meeting of the Association, Dr. George Mendenhall of Ohio, read an abstract of a report on the epidemics of Ohio, Indiana and Michigan.¹⁷¹ Much of the data referring to conditions in Michigan was taken from statistics gathered by Dr. Zina Pitcher of Detroit, a member of the committee.¹⁷²

On May 4, 1858, Dr. P. F. Eve, President of the American Medical Association, declared before the eleventh annual meeting of the Association:

¹⁶⁶*An. Rep.* S.B.H., IV, 7. In his presidential address before the 18th annual meeting of the State Medical Society on May 9, 1883, Dr. G. W. Topping of DeWitt said, "We have recently heard much about 'germs' of disease and even now the newspapers are full of wild predictions respecting the marvelous discoveries that have been made, and the complete revolution that will soon follow in old methods of therapeutic treatment." (*Trans. M.S.M.S.*, VIII, 358.)

¹⁶⁷*An. Rep.* S.B.H., III, 149.

¹⁶⁸*Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1858), 174.

¹⁶⁹*Pen. J. Med.*, I (1854), 562.

¹⁷⁰*Ibid.*, 175.

¹⁷¹*Ibid.*, 559.

¹⁷²*Ibid.*, II (1855), 402.

Carefully prepared Reports have been published by the Association of the various epidemics and diseases which have prevailed during the past ten years throughout our widely extended country, and the mortuary statistics and public health of our large cities minutely ascertained. Charts, maps, diagrams, tables and plates have been freely employed to illustrate these subjects so important to the general welfare of the people. Every State and Territory, every large city and sick community with scarcely an exception, has had its hygienic condition explored by this Body; and dysentery and cholera, typhoid and yellow fevers have especially claimed the attention of our members. * * * The hygienic condition of the nation, of such immense interest to our people—that first, all important question, ever before the profession—the prevention of disease—is to be improved.¹⁷³

Efforts to get State Medical Societies interested in recording the prevalence of disease took shape at the sixth annual meeting of the American Medical Association meeting at New York, in May, 1853. At this meeting the following resolution was introduced by a Dr. Palmer of Chicago and later adopted by the assembly:

That this Association earnestly recommend to the local societies, in all portions of the country, to appoint committees whose duties it shall be to record the prevalence of epidemics or other diseases, and the general state of health in their respective localities, and transmit the said reports to the chairman of the Committee of this body on Epidemics, belonging to such locality. Such local report to be sent through a similar Committee of the State Societies, where they exist.¹⁷⁴

This resolution was widely circulated over the entire country in such a manner as to give it the widest publicity.¹⁷⁵

At the initial meeting of the re-organized Michigan State Medical Society on March 20, 1853, Dr. Patterson of Tecumseh was appointed to report at the next annual meeting on the epidemics of the state.¹⁷⁶ This report was well received.

As chairman of the State Committee of the American Medical Association on "Medical Topography, Epidemic Diseases and Most Successful Treatment Thereof", Dr. J. H. Beech of Coldwater asked the cooperation of the physicians of the state

¹⁷³*Pen. and Ind. Med. J.*, I (1858), 177.

¹⁷⁴*Pen. J. Med.*, I (1853), 44.

¹⁷⁵*Loc. cit.*

¹⁷⁶*Ibid.*, 48.

in securing the necessary data. His request for information appeared in the January, 1856 number of the *Peninsular Journal of Medicine* as follows:

Please mention all epidemics of which you may have any knowledge, being particular to assign limits of time and space as exactly as possible, giving, in connexion with each disease, the peculiar features of the country, city, ward or street where it prevailed, with slope of rocks, character of soil, meteorological records and observations, altitude above the ocean or adjacent bodies of water, character of the water, artificial changes as by cultivation, cutting down or planting of trees, sewerage, drainage, &c., &c.¹⁷⁷

At the fourth annual meeting of the State Medical Society at Ann Arbor in 1856, Dr. Beech presented an extensive report on his "Observations of Diseases at Coldwater".¹⁷⁸ He continued to make these reports for several years thereafter.

In 1856, the North-Eastern Medical and Scientific Association consisting of physicians from Oakland, Macomb, St. Clair and Lapeer counties became interested in this problem. At the annual meeting of this Association, a resolution was offered authorizing the county committees on epidemics to appoint associates to "report upon any or each particular endemic of said county as a special report".¹⁷⁹

COMMUNITY SANITATION

The grand march of the giant contagion begins in the surface filth and the vaults of the civilized privy.

—REV. HENRY A. WALES,
Big Rapids, 1887.¹⁸⁰

Some idea of the insanitary conditions prevailing in Michigan cities and villages in times past may be gained from the following remarks of the Rt. Rev. George D. Gillespie of Grand Rapids made before the Sanitary Convention in that city in 1881:¹⁸¹

¹⁷⁷*Ibid.*, III (1856), 335.

¹⁷⁸*Ibid.*, 495.

¹⁷⁹*Ibid.*, 415.

¹⁸⁰*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, XV, xvii; Rev. Gillespie was President of the Grand Rapids Sanitary Association. His remarks pertain to the work of this organization in Grand Rapids.

¹⁸¹*Ibid.*, IX, 76.

It is a fact that during the warmer months of the last eight or ten years, no one, whose olfactory nerves were in a healthy state, could walk certain streets and alleys by day or by night, without being reminded of the process of disintegration and decay.

But when men got the cobwebs of ignorance out of their eyes when they began to look about and inquire into things what did they find? * * * They found sewers, under prominent residence and business streets, where the amount of drainage they ought to carry off is immense, entirely filled up, so that even the slimy rats themselves could not get through them; for years had they been in that condition, and the filth, and slops, and disease-breeding refuse, from hundreds of houses and out-buildings had to be left on the surface of the ground to fester and poison the atmosphere. They found streets and alleys, in the very heart of the city, filled with rotting vegetables and animal debris. They found cesspools and privy vaults, in all parts of the city fairly running over with rotteness. All these things they found and much more of a like sickening nature, and they no longer wondered that the death rate was almost up to that of New York and even London.

Public alleys were literally "barn-yards" in some cities. Overflowing privy vaults made their presence known to everyone.¹⁸² As people became more health-conscious, these conditions caused "considerable thinking and pondering."¹⁸³

In Detroit, conditions were somewhat similar to those just cited in Grand Rapids. At the time of the cholera epidemic in 1854, the Health Committee of the Common Council, and members of the Detroit Medical Society drew up stringent regulations for the removal of all nuisances within the confines of the city.¹⁸⁴ Again in 1865 cholera invaded this state. To offset any possibility of a cholera epidemic in Detroit, a resolution was proposed and adopted by the Board of Health requesting that the police commissioners "make a detail of patrolmen as many as six for at least one month, or as long as the weather permits to notify all parties to cleanse their premises and alley forthwith."¹⁸⁵ Following an investigation of sanitary conditions in their respective wards, the junior alder-

¹⁸²*Ibid.*, VII, 141.

¹⁸³*Ibid.*, IX, 75. "But let not other cities of the Peninsula state lay the sweet unction to their souls that they are better off than we are in a sanitary sense. I do not believe it. * * * Grand Rapids is no worse as she is no better than her sisters in this regard," said Rev. Gillespie. (Loc. cit).

¹⁸⁴*Pen. J. Med.*, II (1854), 150.

¹⁸⁵*Detroit Advertiser and Tribune*, XXX (Nov. 24, 1865), 1.

men, or health inspectors as they were called, reported such conditions as "stagnant water", "filthy condition of alleys", "leaky water connexions", "pestilential stench", "a very filthy street caused by a slaughter house being drained into it," and many other declared nuisances "detrimental to the public health".¹⁸⁶ A resolution, introduced into the Common Council shortly afterward by Alderman Bond "to authorize the Mayor to call a meeting of citizens with a view of raising \$10,000, to be used in providing for the sanitary condition of the city", was "laid over".¹⁸⁷ Unfortunately, the records fail to disclose what the outcome of this motion was.

Reflecting on sanitary conditions in Detroit, Dr. Henry F. Lyster in 1885 declared, "Within the past forty years this city site and its immediately surrounding country has emerged from this condition, has risen out of its marshes, has driven away these baneful influences, and now rejoices in the salubrity of its location and in the healthfulness of its inhabitants. It has within late years attained to a rank in a sanitary point of view equaled by few cities within the boundaries of the United States. All this has been brought about by a judicious system of drainage, and by the general introduction of lake water."¹⁸⁸

In 1885, a cholera scare again served to bring about sanitary improvement of communities in this state. According to the records, all local boards of health of cities, villages and townships participated actively in removing nuisances from their particular localities.¹⁸⁹

In 1835, Detroit inaugurated a public sewer system.¹⁹⁰ By 1876, 92 miles, 3,617 feet and 6 inches of sewer had been laid costing a total of \$1,733,187.98.¹⁹¹ In 1879, this reached "from the river to her northern limits, located in almost every other street that runs north and south, and these traversed with

¹⁸⁶*Loc. cit.*

¹⁸⁷*Ibid.*, (Nov. 29, 1865), 1.

¹⁸⁸*An. Rep.*, S.B.H., III, 149.

¹⁸⁹*Ibid.*, XIII, 195.

¹⁹⁰*Ibid.*, III, 151.

¹⁹¹*Loc. cit.*, *ibid.*, II, 53.

laterals in almost every alley, thus draining every house and carrying the washings into the river where it is lost in the broad expanse of Lake Erie."¹⁹² With this improvement, Detroit was to experience an "almost complete removal of this very dangerous disease (dysentery)."¹⁹³ In 1875, Dr. H. F. Lyster declared,¹⁹⁴ "Very few cases of either typhoid fever or of dysentery now come to the notice of physicians in large practice from year to year within the city limits unless imported from other places or arising from very unusual circumstances readily recognized."

Despite these several improvements, the important problem of disposal of human wastes into privies continued. In 1875, Dr. F. H. Lyster, declared,¹⁹⁵ "we are still laboring under the disadvantage * * * of the provincial plan of dumb vaults, many of them filled up, and too often awaiting the convenient coming of the night wagon". On this same occasion, he remarked,¹⁹⁶ "The plan of constructing dumb-well or vaults or privies in cities provided with water works and sewers, is fast changing".

Improvements of the privy usually took one of two forms: 1. Connecting vaults with sewers and allowing waste water from the house and rain-water from the roof to flush them out; or 2. Installing a water closet within the house which could be flushed out at will into the sewer. Closed privy vaults, however, were to constitute a problem for many years to come.¹⁹⁷

Several methods were recommended for the cleaning out of household privies. "Night-soil", as it was called, was removed in most cities and villages at night by "scavengers"—men hired by the community for that specific purpose.¹⁹⁸ Quite an improvement over this method was announced in 1875, when a new apparatus, the "Odorless Excavating Apparatus", was

¹⁹²Burr, *op. cit.*, 316.

¹⁹³*An. Rep.*, S.B.H., II, 53.

¹⁹⁴*Ibid.*, III, 157.

¹⁹⁵*Ibid.*, 158.

¹⁹⁶*Loc. cit.*

¹⁹⁷*Loc. cit.*

¹⁹⁸*Ibid.*, VIII, p. xl.

claimed to "empty privy vaults without giving offense to sight or smell". It consisted of a portable pump with valves of peculiar construction for raising the contents of the vault, an air-tight tank into which the material was discharged through a conducting hose, and a charcoal furnace in which noxious gases were "consumed or rendered inoffensive".¹⁹⁹ This device came in for considerable attention by sanitarians and government officials of the state. The State Board of Health, in fact, advised all local boards of health to secure the cleaning of vaults by this method.²⁰⁰ Another departure from the conventional privy was announced in 1886 as the "Crematory Privy", a structure built by the Hon. Daniel L. Crossman of Williamston. This device so excited Dr. H. B. Baker's attention that he paid Mr. Crossman a visit to ascertain whether it constituted a public nuisance. Apparently it failed to excite any doubt in his mind for it was his opinion that "the odor created was not offensive". To alleviate any possible odor, he advised Mr. Crossman to raise the temperature within the furnace and build a high chimney.²⁰¹ Some health officers refused to get excited over these aforementioned improvements, and held out for dry earth closets.²⁰²

Soon after the establishment of the State Board of Health, steps were taken to deal with the problem of waste disposal. In 1879, Committee No. 2 of the Board prepared a circular asking for suggestions relative to the proper method of laying of drains and sewers, the making of connection with public sewers, etc. This was sent to every city in Michigan and elsewhere that had a successful system of sewerage and drainage in operation.²⁰³ Dr. Baker was frequently called as consultant on such matters to cities desiring to lay out a plan of sewerage.²⁰⁴

The abundance of potable water and available water sup-

¹⁹⁹*Ibid.*, III, 74.

²⁰⁰*Ibid.*, III, 74.

²⁰¹*Ibid.*, XIV, p. xli.

²⁰²*Ibid.*, XI, 18.

²⁰³*Ibid.*, VII, p. xlviii.

²⁰⁴*Ibid.*, XV, 171.

plies in Michigan was well known to all residents of the State. Most citizens relied upon springs and shallow wells for their supply.²⁰⁵ However, as the cities became more densely populated, other sources of supply became necessary. As early as 1827, Detroit introduced lake water into the city by means of wooden pipes and pumping works.²⁰⁶ For a long period thereafter, however, the inhabitants continued to supply themselves by means of "wells which yielded very impure water."²⁰⁷ Hollow wooden logs were used at first to convey the water about the city.²⁰⁸ In 1854, the Board of Water Commissioners reported that many of these logs were in bad order.²⁰⁹ In 1864, it was reported by the Water Board that "three-sevenths of the pipeage of Detroit is of wood, one fourth of which has been laid for a period of four, twelve to twenty years."²¹⁰

In 1865, quite a furor arose in the city of Detroit as the result of some rather pointed comments written by an anonymous writer who signed himself "More Anon". In repeated diatribes directed at the Water Board, he accused them of "gross mismanagement".²¹¹ Commenting on the high cost of water in Detroit, he said, "In 1854 the water rates was a half cent a barrel. By 1865 it was double that amount".²¹² In the thirteenth annual report of the Board of Water Commissioners, appearing in the *Detroit Tribune* on January 24, 1865, it was revealed that "during 1864 Detroit used 1,036,263,432 gallons of water with an average usage of 45 g.c.d."²¹³ To this, "More Anon" replied, "gross mismanagement". "The simple facts in the case are," he said, "that the thing is most wretchedly managed by a lack of capacity that exhibits itself in the results".²¹⁴ The spokesman for the Water Board countered shortly in

²⁰⁵*Ibid.*, IV, 77.

²⁰⁶*Ibid.*, III, 154.

²⁰⁷*Loc. cit.* At the request of J. Houghton, Esq., Superintendent of the Detroit Water Works, Prof. S. H. Douglas made an analysis of three samples of water submitted to him for contained minerals. (*Pen. J. Med.*, I (1853), 398).

²⁰⁸*Loc. cit.*

²⁰⁹*Detroit Tribune*, XXIX (Jan. 27, 1865), 2.

²¹⁰*Ibid.*, (Jan. 24, 1865), 1.

²¹¹*Ibid.*, (Jan. 27, 1865), 1.

²¹²*Loc. cit.*

²¹³*Ibid.*, (Jan. 24, 1865), 1.

²¹⁴*Ibid.*, (Jan. 27, 1865), 1.

another newspaper article by saying, "The quantity furnished per individual may at first seem enormously large, but it must be borne in mind that it embraces all the water used for mechanical purposes, for street sprinkling, for extinguishing fires, and for a variety of purposes other than household use. * * * It must be borne in mind also that Detroit has a greater number of miles of pipe in proportion to its population than any other city in the United States. This fact taken in connection with the large amount of wood pipe in use, tends largely to increase the average daily supply to each person over that in other cities."²¹⁵

By 1876, Detroit, Bay City, Saginaw, and Port Huron were supplied with water from the lake or river upon which they were located, Grand Rapids was supplied from a creek, and Allegan, Jackson, and Kalamazoo from wells. These cities were the only ones in the state that provided water to their citizens by public works.²¹⁶

The water coming from certain mineral springs about the state was reputed at one time to have healing properties.²¹⁷ This opinion aroused the curiosity of certain members of the State Medical Society as well as other citizens of the state. At the fourth annual meeting of the State Medical Society, a committee was appointed consisting of Drs. H. O. Hitchcock, Samuel Duffield, and Robert C. Kedzie, whose duty it was to examine these various mineral springs and wells, and to report their findings at a later meeting.²¹⁸ In their report, Dr. Kedzie, as spokesman declared, "Their therapeutic value does not depend upon their magnetic property, for the water has no magnetism."²¹⁹ In another similar investigation pertaining to "The Influence of Sawdust on Potable and Culinary Water in Michigan", Dr. Kedzie stated that "saw-dust waters all contain an amount of organic matter sufficient to condemn them for potable and culinary use."²²⁰

²¹⁵*Ibid.*, (Jan. 24, 1865), 1.

²¹⁶*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, IV, 77.

²¹⁷*Trans. M.S.M.S.*, IV (1870), 16.

²¹⁸*Loc. cit.*

²¹⁹*Ibid.*, V (1871), 46.

²²⁰*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, XII, 88.

Later when the State Board of Health was established, many complaints were received from various municipalities concerning the pollution of water supplies by saw-dust, sewage, and garbage.²²¹ To alleviate these conditions, the Board took steps to assure the people of the state pure water for drinking purposes. In 1875, a circular (7) was sent out by Dr. Arthur Hazlewood, Chairman of the Committee on Foods, Drinks, etc., requesting information concerning local water supplies. The replies received indicated widespread interest in the subject.²²²

HOUSING CONDITIONS

When men lived in houses of reeds, they had constitutions of oak;
When they live in houses of oak, they have constitutions of reed.²²³

Housing conditions in Michigan at the middle of the nineteenth century were still of the pioneer type. The condition of homes then common in the state is well described in the following remarks of Dr. S. L. Andrews of Romeo:

They have usually but one room, enclosed by decaying logs and boards, chinked with mud. Here, for ten, twenty, or thirty years a whole family, and sometimes more, have slept, cooked, eaten, smoked, and chewed, snuffed, washed, made soap, spun, wove, and done all else that is necessary for a family. Did you ever know a typhoid fever or an epidemic dysentery to enter such a house? Was it easily managed? In my experience the worst forms of disease attacking almost entire families have occurred in such habitations, saturated with the emanations of a generation, and pouring out the effluvia of decaying animal and vegetable matter.²²⁴

Looking back to his boyhood days in this State, Dr. Robert C. Kedzie on one occasion said, "I well remember the log houses of the early settlers in this State; the open cracks between the logs and the crannies around doors and windows through which every wind of heaven found entrance, and the huge fireplace which afforded free escape for any foul air. I

²²¹*Ibid.*, XV, p. xxxix.

²²²*Ibid.*, III, p. xiv; at the regular quarterly meeting of the State Board of Health on July 11, 1874, Rev. S. Day of Ann Arbor described plans for a filter designed for filtering water before storage in cisterns. (*Ibid.*, III, xxvi).

²²³Quoted by Prof. R. C. Kedzie. (*Ibid.*, I, 79.)

²²⁴*Detroit Rev. Med. and Pharm.*, I (1866), 253. Dr. S. L. Andrews was chairman of the Committee on Hygiene of the North-Eastern District Medical Society.

remember how we used to revolve like planets before the roaring fire, each one revolving on his own axis 'to let one side thaw before the other froze'; but I also remember the almost uniform good health of those early days, always excepting diseases of malarial origin."²²⁵

Soon after the establishment of the State Board of Health, the subject of housing became a common topic for conversation. In 1874 Dr. Robert C. Kedzie offered a plan of ventilation for the use of people of limited means. He also demonstrated his ideas on the subject by means of a miniature glass house in which ventilation flues had been arranged.²²⁶ In 1878, he carried out experiments relative to the "permeability of air of walls of buildings and of clothing, and to the effect of this condition on the health of those who wear the clothing and live in houses".²²⁷ With these results as a basis for discussion, he undertook to give talks before Farmers' Institutes in various parts of the state on the subject, "Healthy Homes for Farmers".²²⁸ This address became so popular that the State Board of Health ordered 6,000 copies printed for general distribution in the state.²²⁹ A paper read by Dr. H. F. Lyster of Detroit on "Healthful Dwellings" was published in the sixth annual report of the State Board of Health.²³⁰ Rev. D. C. Jacokes, another member of the State Board of Health, carried on experiments on the heating and ventilation of homes.²³¹ At the regular meeting of the Board on January 8, 1883, the Hon. James Hueston of the Senate spoke of the need of sanitary supervision of dwellings of people.²³² As the result of his suggestions, the Board adopted resolutions requesting the Committee on Legislation and Buildings to give further considera-

²²⁵*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, op. cit., 79.

²²⁶*Trans. M.S.M.S.*, VII (1873), 186.

²²⁷*An. Rep. S.B.H.*, VI, p. lii; at a meeting of the Grand Rapids Sanitary Convention in 1880, Mr. Jno. K. Allen stated that the use of an air moistener was the most effective means of supplying moisture and purity to the air. (*Ibid.*, VIII, 148).

²²⁸*Ibid.*, VI, p. lii.

²²⁹*Ibid.*, VI, p. liv.

²³⁰*Ibid.*, VI, p. xlix.

²³¹*Ibid.*, VI, p. xlix.

²³²*Ibid.*, XI, p. xxxiii.

tion to this problem. It was suggested that all plans for new dwellings be submitted to the local board of health for approval.²³³

²³³*Loc. cit.*

YESTERDAYS WITH THE MAGAZINE

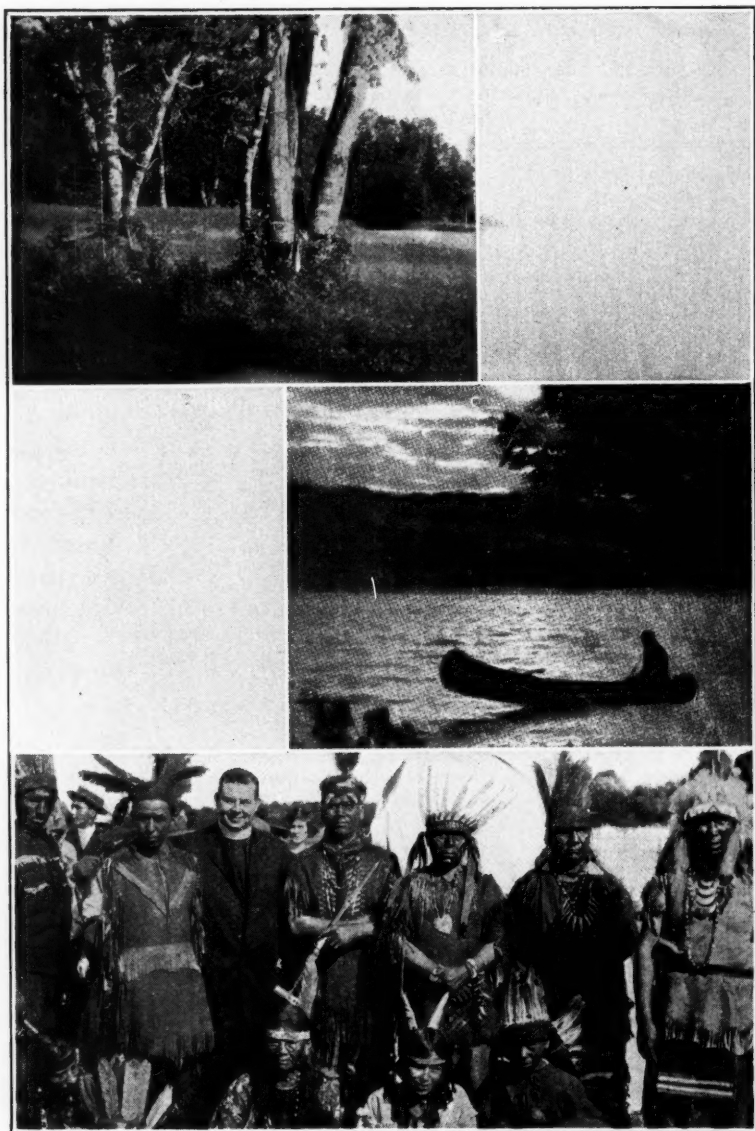
(*Michigan History Magazine* is sent free to schools and libraries. Consult the volumes there, or write to the Michigan Historical Commission, Lansing.)

Prehistoric and Indian Lore



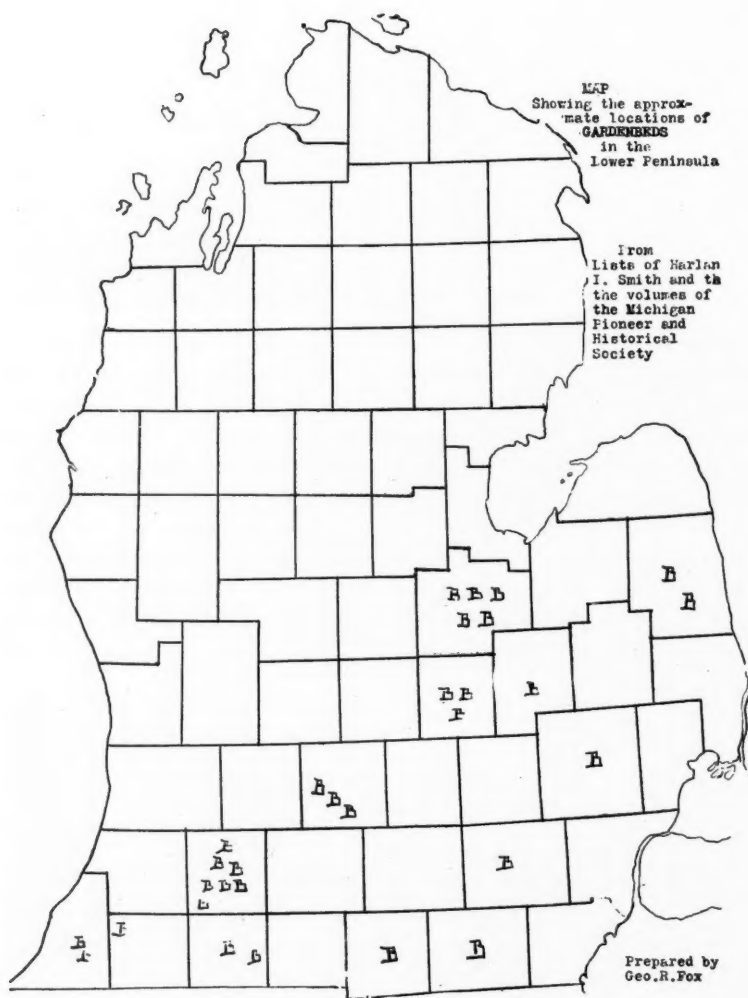
ISLE ROYALE, GROUP AT MINE PIT

This picture represents a group of the Franklin Isle Royale expedition resting on the brink of a rock trench at one of the prehistoric copper mines of the island. This expedition was made in the autumn of 1923. For the story see the Magazine for 1924, October number, pp. 450-468. For an earlier expedition in which is reported the discovery of a prehistoric town on Isle Royale, see July-October number 1923, in article, "Michigan's Most Ancient Industry: The Prehistoric Mines and Miners of Isle Royale," by William P. F. Ferguson.



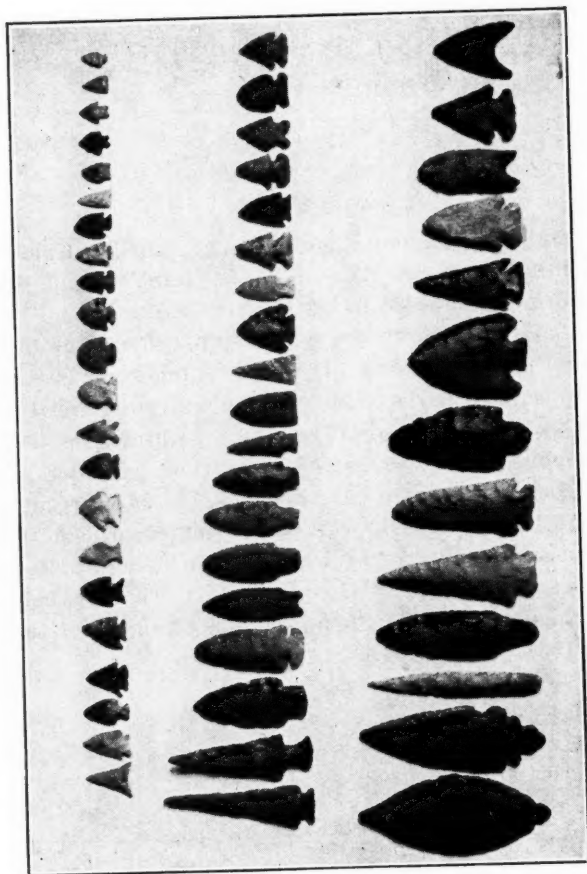
INDIANS, TYPES OF CHIPPEWA

A wealth of natural resources in upper Michigan was the heritage of the simple hunters, fishers and warriors of the Chippewa tribe in early days. The bark of the birch was appropriated by them for manufacture of utilities for household and temporary use. The group below illustrates types of Chippewa Indians and squaws who have developed the porcupine quill handicraft. They are shown here on a special occasion with their priest, wearing their native costumes which were discarded as daily garb more than fifty years ago. For the article, "A Vanishing Art of the Chippewas," by Beulah Mary Wadsworth, see *Michigan History Magazine*, Winter number 1937, pp. 69-88.



GARDEN BEDS

Map showing distribution of ancient "garden beds" in the lower peninsula of Michigan. These "beds" are of unknown age and origin, supposed to be the work of the Mound Builders. Once numerous, nearly every trace of them has now disappeared. They consisted of raised patches of ground, separated by sunken paths, and were generally arranged in plats or blocks of parallel beds. The general opinion is that these relics denote some species of cultivation, perhaps vegetable gardens, hence the name "garden beds." It is regrettable they could not have received, while they yet remained, the more exact and scientific scrutiny which is now being applied to our antiquities. See article by George R. Fox, "What About Michigan Archeology," in the Spring-Summer number of the Magazine for 1922, pp. 415-434.



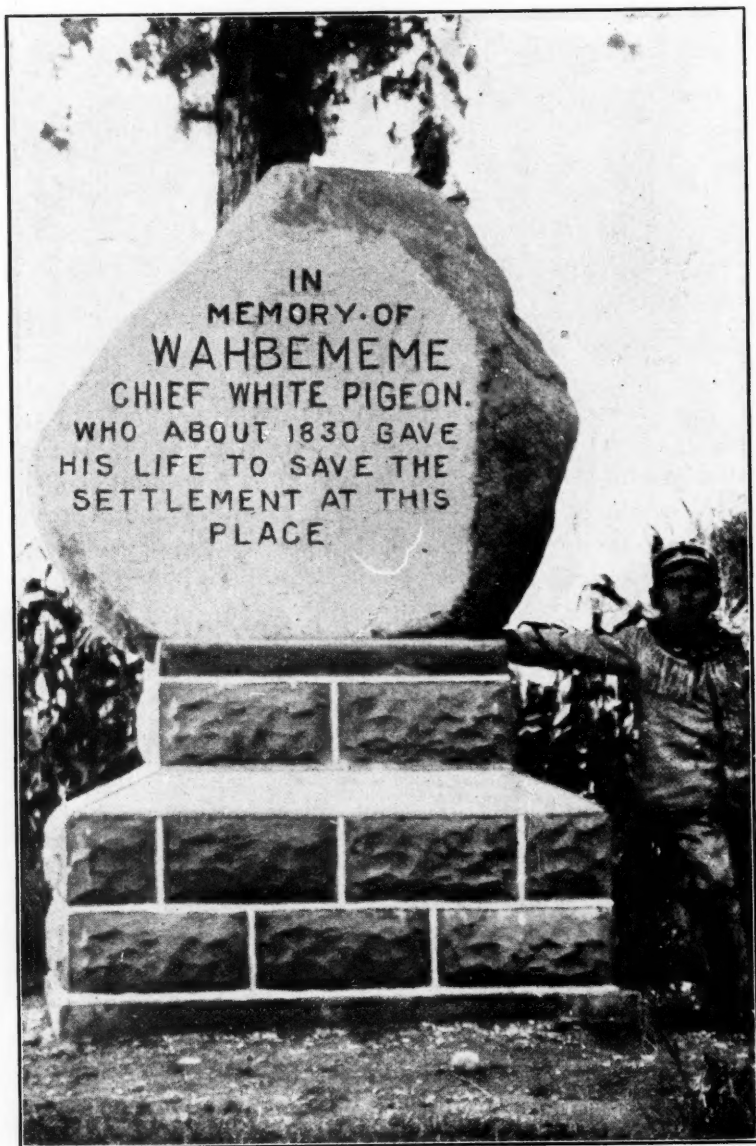
ARROWHEADS

A few Indian arrowheads and spearheads representative of the collection in the State Historical Museum at Lansing (First Floor State Office Building). The Indians made their arrowheads and spear points in a great variety of form. Probably different kinds of points were used for different purposes. Note the different character of the notch. There are notches that extend to the base of the arrowhead, notches at right angles to the length of the point, others at an oblique angle. The deep notch is only at the base of the point. Some of the points have three notches. Observe the differences in shape and size. They differed in technique of manufacture. No two arrowheads are exactly alike. For description of this and other items see E. F. Greenman, "The Archeological Collection in the Michigan Pioneer Museum," in the Magazine for April, 1928, pp. 350-376.



MARKER SAGINAW TREATY

This granite rock with bronze tablet marks the site of the Indian treaty of 1819 which ceded a large part of central Michigan to the Federal government. The area and extent of this cession is pictured on a map facing page 274 of the Magazine for January, 1920, in an article entitled "The Treaty of Saginaw, 1819," by Fred Dustin. The treaty was negotiated by General Lewis Cass, then governor of Michigan Territory. The incidents of the Indian pow-wow on that occasion make lively reading. In one of the incidents the most exciting feature was several barrels of whiskey.



BOULDER, WAHBEMEME

This memorial to Chief White Pigeon is situated at the junction of US-112 and US-131 about a mile west of the village of White Pigeon, St. Joseph County, and was erected by the Alba Columba Club in 1909. White Pigeon was a Potawatomi chief. He was one of the signers of the Treaty of Greenville, August 3, 1795, negotiated by "Mad Anthony" Wayne after the Battle of Fallen Timbers. The Handbook of American Indians says: "He is described as tall and athletic, an unusually fleet runner, and as having possessed high ideals of truth and honor. According to Indian information he received his name because he was of much lighter complexion than the members of his tribe generally." The lad standing near is Willie White Pigeon, great-great-grandson of Chief Wahbememe.



ELLA PETOSKEY

Chief Petoskey was the son of a scion of French nobility, Antoine Carré, who became a fur trader with the American Fur Company and was stationed at Mackinac Island. His mother was the daughter of an Ottawa chief. He was born at sun-rise and his name means "rising sun." Chief Petoskey, whose last residence was the city named for him in Emmet County, had ten children, eight sons and two daughters. One of the sons, Joseph Petoskey, is the father of Ella Petoskey, whose picture is here shown, and who is the author of the article, "Chief Petoskey," published in the Magazine for July, 1929, pp. 443-448.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1940

Alleman, Gene, East Lansing
Alsobrooks, Bartie, Detroit
Baker, Luther H., East Lansing
Baldwin, Joseph A., Albion
Beck, John H., Lansing
Beebe, Mrs. Clyde, Benton Harbor
Bellaire, John I., Manistique
Bennett, Harry D., Lansing
Berkey, W. H., Cassopolis
Black, Allan R., Lansing
Boyington, Miss Gladys, Ypsilanti
Boyse, Mrs. Edward, Saginaw
Brisbin, Mrs. James D., Lansing
Brown, Frank D., Bellevue
Brucker, Wilber M., Detroit
Butler, Albert F., Grand Rapids
Campbell, Mrs. Clay, Lansing
Carrier, Reno G., Lansing
Clarke, W. R., Grand Ledge
Coleman, Miss Grace F., Jonesville
Coleman, Joseph C., Lansing
Cummins, Alva M., Lansing
Danaher, J. E., Detroit
Darr, H. L., Free Soil
DeLamarter, Dr. Louis, Lansing
Despres, Geo. C., Manistee
Diamond, Mrs. Marjorie, Lansing
Dunning, John W., Alma
Eaton, Elton R., Plymouth
Elsesser, Albert A., Lansing
Estes, Floyd W., Lansing
Farra, E. Ross, Grand Rapids
Ferris, Carleton G., Chicago, Ill.

Supplementary roster may be obtained on request from the State Historical Society, Lansing, Michigan.

Field, Miss Anna W., Ypsilanti
Foster, Theodore G., Lansing
Foster, Walter S., Lansing
Georgiana, Sister Mary, Plymouth
Goodnow, E. W., Lansing
Gregorich, Joseph, Chicago, Ill.
Haight, Floyd, Dearborn
Hamil, Fred G., Birmingham
Honigsheim, Paul, East Lansing
Jeffrey, Mrs. James D., Detroit
Knappen, M. M., East Lansing
Krause, Elmer, Detroit
Langenbacher, Andrew, Lansing
Larson, Robert H., Dearborn
Leech, Carl A., Detroit
Lind, C. L., Ludington
McAlvay, Carl, Lansing
McGrath-DeFoe Company, Charlotte
McLaughlin, John J., Detroit
MaDan, Geo. G., East Lansing
Maybee, Rolland H., Mt. Pleasant
Millard, Mrs. Mildred B., Detroit
Mullett, Mrs. Clare, Ann Arbor
Norris, Joe L., Detroit
Nye, Russel B., East Lansing
Osborn, Chase S., Sault Ste. Marie
Osborn, Miss Stellanova, Sault Ste. Marie
Pattengill, Craig I., Newtonville, Mass.
Person, James A., Lansing
Person, Seymour H., Lansing
Putnam, Miss Mary B., Ypsilanti
Raidle, Stanley H., Charlotte
Ray, Miss Ellen M., Lansing
Remson, Wm. R., Detroit
Reynolds, Carl H., Lansing
Roe, C. S., Lansing

Rogan, Harry, Detroit
Schneider, Frank O., Kankakee, Ill.
Schuch, John P., Saginaw
Seaman, Mrs. Wm. E., Lansing
Selden, Joseph P., Detroit
Sexton, Miss Ethelyn, Lansing
Sherman, C. J., Lansing
Sherman, J. Abner, Ann Arbor
Shields, E. C., Lansing
Smith, Clyde B., Lansing
Smith, C. T., Alhambra, Calif.
Smith, Mrs. Flora F., Dexter
Spears, Clare W., Flint
Stage, Miss Ethel Brady, Pontiac
Starr, Thomas I., Detroit
Stebler, Adolph M., Shingleton
Stevens, Mrs. Dwight, White Cloud
Swift, Ivan, Harbor Springs
Terry, Harry, Detroit
Thomanar, Brinzie A., Detroit
Thomas, Mrs. Geo. K., Lansing
Turner, Mrs. Jas. M., Lansing
Van Hove, Austin G., Detroit
Van Keuren, James I., Lansing
Westendorf, Donald R., Sr., Mt. Clemens
Wheeler, Merton H., Lansing
Wilson, Harry A., Lansing

GIFTS TO THE STATE PIONEER MUSEUM DURING 1940

Chaffin, Donald G. (Lansing)—Six cannon balls, dug from the earth near Fort Frederick, Canada.

Dickerson, Mrs. H. S. (Columbus, Ohio)—Military collection: two belts, two hats, drum sticks, sash, vest, epaulets; original owner was W. F. Dickerson, a drummer-boy in the Eighth Infantry, Civil War.

Gabriel, Don, (Detroit)—Mineral Specimens.

Howard, Blanche L. (Lansing)—Small scales used for weighing gold; smoking stand originally owned by Jerome Walton of Ypsilanti, Michigan. Consists of wood and metal trim, cigar holder, clipper, and trays; group statue "Coming to the Parson", made of brown plaster.

Howell, Mrs. Alfred (Lansing)—Lamp shade, leaded shade of stained glass, panel variety, imported from Italy.

Jenks, Dr. E. A. (Mound, Minnesota)—Silver watch, gift to Lieutenant D. A. Jewell, Company M, 1st Michigan Engineers, by his company.

King, Mary H. Austin (Albion)—Model farm gate, patented under the name of M. D. Allen prior to 1862. Walnut variety. Original owner was Albert Webster.

McLaughlin, J. J. (Detroit)—Picture, the Right Reverend Dr. Mullock who first planned and proposed laying of the Atlantic Cable in 1850.

Rehm, John (Lansing)—Dress and slip made by Mrs. Grace Rehm. Consists of 125 double balls of silk, and is hand crocheted; Colt's gun, engraving on handle, coat of armor; Colt's gun, engraving on handle, stage coach; Musket gun, made by C. H. Beach; Bottle Cologne, green glass; desk brought from Ohio in 1880 by Squire Bush, made of cherry; wooden boot-jack; horseshoe; froe, iron, used for making crude shingles.

Rusling, Mrs. Mina (Brighton)—Baby dress made in 1849 for the christening of the donor's mother, Mrs. Grace Simpson Stewart.

Sherman, C. J. (Lansing)—Doll, beautiful Jenny Lind model with china head, hands, feet.

Swartz Van Fleet Post No. 138 (White Pigeon)—Civil War flag of wool with 38 stars. Original owner was Elliot Post No. 115.

Van Peenan, Peter (Lansing)—Fork, three-tined, wooden handle, found under the Capitol building during repairs.

Articles made for the Museum by the WPA State Museum Project: Diorama of Hadden Hall, Dining Room of the Tudor style; also group of miniature chairs as follows: one cradle chair; one Windsor Arm type; one early American arm chair; one Chippendale ribbon-back chair; one Heppelwhite chair; one Mary and William dressing table.

HISTORICAL NEWS AND NOTES

THE 66th annual meeting of the Michigan State Historical Society was held on Friday, October 11, in the Community building at Fremont, Michigan.

General Chairman and Committees appointed for this event carried out their respective duties efficiently. They were as follows:

General Chairman: Mr. S. S. Nisbet, Fremont

Arrangements—George Vredevelde, chairman; Fred Bouwman, Fritz Reber, Eugene Deur, Philip Colgrove

Decorations—Mrs. Clare Kempf, chairman; Mrs. James Blandford, Mrs. S. S. Nisbet, Mrs. Frank Raymond, Mrs. Elwin Miller

Music—Arthur Bultman, chairman; E. J. VanderWerp, Mrs. E. E. McMullen, Leon Conklin, Mrs. Hersel Smith

Exhibits—Mrs. Harry D. Reber, chairman; Mrs. George Monroe, Mrs. E. E. Noble, Mrs. Earle Johnson

Newaygo County Historical Society—Harry Wheeler, Fremont, chairman; Lloyd Fry, County School Commissioner, White Cloud; Harry Hooker, County Clerk, White Cloud; Allen Smith, Newaygo Republican, Newaygo; Miss Ethelyn Abbott, Teacher emeritus, Hesperia

Hospitality—Miss Louise Kieft, chairman; Mayor D. D. Alton, Mrs. H. C. O'Brian, Mrs. E. J. VanderWerp, Senator Don VanderWerp, Mrs. Bert VanderMeulen, Mrs. Oscar D. Stryker, Dr. Lillian B. Storms, Mrs. Dorcas Nelson, Mrs. Carroll Smith, Glenn Messinger, Herman Schuiteman

All sessions were held in the Fremont Community building. The first session opened at 2 o'clock p. m., President Edward D. Dimment presiding in place of Prof. C. S. Larzelere of Mount Pleasant, in order that Dr. Dimment might return to Holland for an evening conference. The Fremont High School Choir sang "American Hymn" (Kellar); "A Song of Peace" (Stone); and "Praise for Peace" (Flemming), under direction of Mr. Arthur Bultman. Secretary Fuller reported a membership of 329 to date, reviewed the annual meeting of 1939 held in the State Senate Chamber at Lansing, and discussed briefly the relation of the Society to the Historical Commission. He explained that the Commission is the working body in state and local history, supported by legislative appropriation, while the Society since 1913 when the Commission was organized has been largely a social group with the function of holding one

or two meetings a year at which programs of papers and addresses are given. The Secretary expressed belief that the Society might be revitalized through committee work in the local fields throughout the state and thus become a more useful agency through which the Commission might serve the general public more effectively. Reporting for Treasurer Ransom E. Olds, the Secretary stated that cash on hand amounted to the sum of \$586.73, and that the amount of \$360.68 was still frozen in the bank at Lansing, a legacy from the "bank holiday."

The second item of business was the election of Trustees. The following persons were elected to serve for the period 1940-42: Mrs. Homer E. Buck, Bay City; Mrs. H. L. Darr, Free Soil; Mr. C. W. Ellison, Lansing; Mr. Wm. F. Lawler, Detroit; and Mr. John P. Schuch, Saginaw. The following Trustees were elected in 1939 to serve for the period 1939-41: Mr. Harold E. Brooks, Marshall; Dr. Edward D. Dimment, Holland; Dr. R. Clyde Ford, Ypsilanti; Judge Russell R. McPeck, Charlotte; Mr. Charles A. Weissert, Kalamazoo.

The remainder of the afternoon program consisted of the following papers and talks: "The History of Newaygo County," by Mr. Harry Spooner, Peoria, Ill., former resident of Fremont and authority on the history of the county; "Teaching of local history in the Schools" by Dr. E. M. Clark, Ferris Institute, Big Rapids; "Collecting Local History," by Mr. William F. Lawler, president Detroit Council on Local History, Detroit. Mr. Harry F. Wheeler, chairman of the Committee on the Newaygo County Historical Society reported for the Committee that much enthusiasm had been roused for this movement, with the prospect that a strong organization would be built in the county.

A supper conference was held from 5:30 to 7:30 at the Kimbark Inn for persons who wished to discuss teaching and research problems over the supper hour. About 40 were present. Prof. Larzelere presided.

The evening program opened at 8 o'clock with unfinished

business as described above. Before the opening of the meeting the Fremont High School Orchestra directed by Mr. Arthur Bultman dispensed music. Mr. E. J. VanderWerp opened the meeting with a vocal solo, "My Own United States." Professor Carl Remer of the University of Michigan spoke on the subject "The Second World War," discussing fundamental aspects of both the European and Asiatic spheres. Mrs. E. E. McMullen sang "I am an American" (Schuster) and "God Bless America" (Berlin). Professor M. M. Knappen of Michigan State College spoke on "Our National Defense."

A pleasing feature of the afternoon session was the annual Autumn Colors Parade for rural schools which passed by the Community building and for which the Society recessed in order that members and guests might witness this beautiful event.

During their stay in Fremont many persons visited the famous Gerber Baby Food factory which welcomed visitors at its plant.

On Saturday many participated in opening of the Newaygo County Autumn Colors Tour, which was one of the chief attractions, the date of the meeting having been chosen to coincide with this event.

On October 16 a 20-foot granite memorial to Father Gabriel Richard was unveiled in Gabriel Richard Park at the approach to Belle Isle bridge, Detroit. The sculpture is the work of Mr. Leonard Yungwirth, assistant professor of art at Michigan State College, who came to the faculty in 1940 from Wayne University, Detroit. The inscription on the statue reads:

1767-1832

"Pioneer priest-patron, founder of churches and schools, co-founder of the University of Michigan, member of Congress, printer, martyr of charity, prophet and apostle of Christian civilization on the Michigan frontier."

The dedication of this monument elicited a generous tribute from President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The President's letter,

addressed to James E. Frazer, chairman of the Gabriel Richard Monument Committee, is as follows:

The White House,
Washington,
Sept. 12, 1940.

My Dear Mr. Frazer:

Gabriel Richard was one of those many-sided men who were often the product of our pioneer period. I suppose it was because the times required such varied abilities in leaders that they became proficient in so many and such diverse callings.

Gabriel Richard was a striking figure in American history. It was a far pilgrimage from his birth in France to his death in Detroit some 60 years later. During that period he taught mathematics in Baltimore; he was sent as a missionary to the Indians to the Northwest Territory; he found time to engage in literary work and rounded out an otherwise full career by serving as delegate from Michigan Territory to the Eighteenth Congress, being the only Catholic priest ever to serve in our national legislative body.

He richly deserves to be remembered for we have need today of the pioneer spirit in which to meet new phases of the same old problems with which Father Richard and his contemporaries struggled. Out of that struggle came the courage and the vision on which the nation was built.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed)

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

YOUR HISTORICAL I. Q.

(See end of the Notes for answers)

1. Why is January 26 celebrated as "Michigan Day"?
2. What five Michigan governors were born in January?
3. What famous Indian massacre took place on Michigan soil in January?
4. What famous aviator was born in Michigan in February?
5. What Michigan Fort was looted by Spaniards February 12, 1781?
6. What notable Michigan college was established by act of the state legislature February 3, 1855.
7. Who was Michigan's "Civil War governor"?
8. What noted fraternal order originating in Michigan was organized February 19, 1864?

9. What Michigan county is named for a Vice President of the United States? When organized?
 10. For whom was Clinton County named, and when was it organized?
-

Plans for future historical celebrations are brewing. (Readers, send them in and we'll make a note.) One of these is the proposed centennial celebration in 1944 of the signing of the treaty with the Chippewa Indians, the opening of the copper mines and the building of Fort Wilkins. This treaty signed in 1843 ceded to the Federal Government the area now known as the Copper Country together with a large part of the Upper Peninsula. Mr. Ocha Potter tells about it in *The Evening News-Journal*, Calumet, for October 18, 1940. Mr. Potter is chairman of the advertising committee of the Copper Country Vacationist League. It is proposed to bring a quarter million people to the Copper Country in the summer of 1944. Certainly it is not too early to start planning for an event of that magnitude.

Among the Centennial and homecoming celebrations of 1940, one of the most notable was held in Ontonagon in the Upper Peninsula July 21-26. It is voted by those in attendance one of the most colorful affairs ever held in the north country. The Rogers Producing Company of Fostoria, Ohio, whose business is the staging of large outdoor spectacles, coached several hundred local people who appeared in the big historical pageant several nights during Centennial week, costumed correctly as Indians, fur traders, missionaries, copper explorers, coureurs de bois, canoemen, lumberjacks and other actors in scenes taken from Ontonagon's history.

The principal historical address of the occasion was given by Dr. William Chalmers Covert, of Pittsburgh, once an Ontonagon minister and author of the volume, *Glory of the Pines*.

Mr. M. J. Fox, of the von Platten-Fox Lumber Company, spoke on the founding of Ontonagon 100 years ago.

An interesting historical museum was assembled as part of the celebration. Nightly marine parties on the Ontonagon, River, costume balls, folk dances, floor shows, and a lumber-jack picnic added zest to the week's doings. "Everything was free and all were made welcome," writes James K. Jamison, general chairman.

Mr. Jamison was representative from the Ontonagon district in the legislature of 1933, and later was employed in the Auditor General's office at Lansing.

Ontonagon is in the foothills of the Porcupine Mountains and the gateway to the Lake of the Clouds, one of Upper Michigan's Seven Wonders. Lake Superior whitefish dinners were featured by hotels during Centennial week. The Ironwood *Daily Globe* of July 22 carried a fine pictorial description of the celebration. Mr. Jamison's volume, *This Ontonagon Country*, was reviewed in the Winter Number of the Magazine, 1940.

Just a century ago in 1840 the boundaries of Manistee County were established, and during the same year the foundation for the city's later fame as a lumber producing center was created when the site for the first permanent mill was selected. The centennial of these events was observed in Manistee in connection with the city's fifth annual Forest Festival, July 2, 3, and 4, at which time the *Manistee News-Advocate* published a Forest Festival-Centennial edition giving many special articles on the founding and early history of the county.

The Detroit Historical Society's museum celebrated its 12th anniversary November 19. This fine museum, often called the "Skyscraper Museum" because of its location on the 23rd floor of the Barlum Tower, now boasts thousands of historical exhibits tracing the history of Detroit from the days of Cadillac down to the present time.

One hundred years ago in 1840 Antrim County was set off as the county of Megisee, its boundaries described, and the name was changed to Antrim in 1843. "Megisee" is a Chippewa Indian word meaning "eagle" and was the name of a chief who signed the treaties of 1821 and 1826. The name Antrim is one of the five Irish names given to northern Michigan counties by the legislature of 1843, taken from the name of a county in the northeastern part of Ireland. The Antrim County Centennial was celebrated August 15, 16, 17 and newspapers of the county—the *Bellaire Record*, the *Central Lake Torch*, the *Elk Rapids Progress*, the *Mancelona Herald*—all carried stories of pioneer days and the later development of Antrim County.

The Battle of Pine River between "King" Strang's Mormons from Beaver Island and mainland fishermen is one of the major historical events in northern Michigan. A monument marking the site was dedicated last July 27. Stephen H. Smith, 91, one of the region's oldest and first pioneers, uncovered the huge native stone upon which a bronze placque carrying an inscription recording the event is mounted. Mr. Smith is the only living witness of the battle. Where the monument stands, at the top of Grant street hill on Park Avenue, Charlevoix, was a virgin wilderness when the event took place in 1853, when Stephen Smith was a little boy. It was about three years after this battle that "King" Strang was slain on Beaver Island by one of his followers.

The newly established Mason County Historical Society, Mrs. G. Pearl Darr president, has recently dedicated the first of what it hopes will grow to a series of interesting historical markers in the county. It commemorates the first house built by white man in the region, located just off the Marquette road in Buttersville. The Society is also assembling a museum.

Oct. 8, 1940.

Report of Lew Allen Chase, corresponding-secretary of the Marquette County Historical Society:

Aside from the work that usually falls to a corresponding-secretary—especially the answering of inquiries of a local historical character, of which there are a good many,—the corresponding secretary is charged by the constitution of this society with the duty of preparing the programs for its meetings and the purchase of library materials. Under this last head, the most notable additions during the past year include additional volumes of the Reports of the Michigan Supreme Court, the Dictionary of American History which contains articles relating to the district, and the Michigan Centennial History which also contains considerable material of local interest and application. These purchases are largely responsible for the considerable outlays for books reported by the treasurer. I do not anticipate anything of this degree during the ensuing year.

It was deemed desirable to complete the set of Supreme Court Reports in order that they might be briefed and indexed by two W. P. A. workers who have been engaged thereon in my office during the past year. An historical collection is of little utility if it is not properly indexed. Our experience with inquiries which have come in have demonstrated the great value of this work of indexing. Otherwise it would often be impossible to locate the factual material desired, since most of us are too busy otherwise to run it down. Mr. Robert Olson and Mrs. Genevieve Gleason are now employed on our records in this work.

Mr. Olson reports the number of index cards now on hand pertaining to persons and places in the Upper Peninsula to amount to 17,525. Reference cards pertaining to the Copper Country and Copper mining number 8450. There are 1400 miscellaneous mining reports—quarries, ore-crushing plants, etc. There are 1,525 cards relating to the Menominee Range. There are 940 cards for the Gogebic Range. There are 3,150 reference cards for the Marquette Range—iron mines and min-

ing. There are 1,400 cards relating to gold-mining, furnaces, foundries, docks, chemical plants, lumbering, iron production, labor conditions and transportation. There are 2,800 references to newspaper clippings. There are 1,636 briefs of Michigan Supreme Court cases pertaining to the Upper Peninsula, running from Volumes 1 to 253.

Either one of the W. P. A. workers or N. Y. A. student has been engaged in clipping items of permanent interest from the *Daily Mining Journal* for insertion in scrap-books, which will prove of much interest hereafter, no doubt. These clippings are also being indexed.

A county historical society without library and museum resources can accomplish little of permanent importance. This has always been kept in mind, in planning the activities of the Marquette County Historical Society. While some of the acquisitions of the Society's library may not suggest by their title or a cursory view that they contain material of local significance, it will usually be found that they do. Undoubtedly in various ways some materials have come to us that are of no conceivable local interest and it may be well later on to sort out and eliminate such materials from our collections. It is necessary to keep in mind the remoter needs of the community in regard to its historical interest, and this we are constantly doing. This community has many interests and to an historian nothing that is human is alien. Laymen might suppose that some old account-book or letter might have no historical value. None can say that it will not. Experience has shown what uses can be made of very unpromising materials by historians, biographers, journalists, etc. We trust that, if our activities under this head of acquisition are not always understood, they will be dealt with patiently in the belief that we are trying to lay a firm foundation for the future. In some respects we believe that we are blazing new trails. There is already evidence that persons outside the district are interested in our work.

Mr. Fred Dustin, Historian of the Saginaw Valley Historical Society, has been publishing a series of articles on the Indians and early settlement of the Saginaw region as a means of stimulating interest in this newly organized Society. The articles are appearing in the *Saginaw News* published at Saginaw.

A University of Michigan expedition led by Dr. Emerson F. Greenman, archeologist in the Great Lakes division of the Museum of Anthropology has made discoveries indicating the existence of primitive man's settlement thousands of years ago in the Georgian Bay region of Ontario. Ancient implements and utensils made of quartzite were found on the former lake beach which is now nearly 300 feet above the water level. Evidences show that at least a temporary village of aborigines was at this site when it was the shore of present Georgian Bay.

Arthur E. Towne, publisher of the *Otsego Union* began a series of articles in his paper last August 22 under the heading, "Old Prairie Days," in which is shown a sympathetic understanding of the shadowless plains with their subtle lure, their mystery, their romance and adventure, their hardships and rewards. Mr. Towne is a Yale man and writes with a skill that reads like a book. These articles illustrate well how to present history in a newspaper. Teachers can use such articles to advantage.

"There is considerably more history revealed within the pages of a daily newspaper than meets the casual eye of the reader of 'Popeye,'" writes Mr. Leo J. Alilunas, teacher of history in the Dearborn high school, in an article entitled, "American History Retold in the Daily Press" (*The Social Studies*, November 1940, p. 317). "The difficulty has been that in the main neither teacher nor student has possessed the necessary curiosity or diligence to track down absorbing newspaper material appearing in the daily press, material which has a pertinent bearing on a classroom study of American history."

The Bay City *Times*, beginning with last September 14, has carried a very interesting series of stories relating the background of various buildings in the city public school system. The *Times* carried a story every Saturday, with pictures of the respective schools. Presumably these will be gathered into a booklet. Pre-publication in the newspaper press is excellent publicity for the local historian.

The City of Dearborn has the model equipment for local historical work, comprising the Dearborn Historical Commission which is a department of the city government and the new Dearborn Historical Society organized last November 12. Mr. Floyd Haight who teaches history in the Dearborn high school is chairman of the Historical Commission and took a leading part in the organization of the new Society.

The following officers of the Society were elected at the November meeting: President, Mr. Joseph N. Karmann; Vice-president, Mr. John Wagner; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Asa A. Stutsman; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. H. A. Barber; Treasurer, Clark J. Schwarzerer.

The Dearborn Historical Commission is composed as follows: Mr. Floyd Haight, Chairman; Mrs. Louis Ives, Vice-chairman; Mr. Robert Larson, Secretary; Father John A. Klick; and Mr. John H. Schafer.

Closely cooperating with these organizations is the Dearborn Public Library, through Librarian Isabelle L. Chaffin; the Dearborn Public Schools; and the Dearborn Press. All of which makes a going concern.

The main business of this meeting was the discussion and adoption of a constitution. Here is the Committee on Constitution: Mrs. H. A. Barber, Chairman; Mrs. Louis Ives; Mrs. Max Musser; Mrs. Elmer Allmendinger; Miss Iris Becker; Mr. H. A. Salisbury.

The editor of the Magazine was present as an invited guest and spoke briefly on ways, means, and methods of historical

work. Mr. Robert Larson of Dearborn told of interesting episodes in Dearborn's history.

The Dearborn *Press* began last September 19 a series of biographical sketches of persons who knew Dearborn years before Henry Ford gave the world the Model T. They are written by "Tamrack." The members of the new Dearborn Historical Society, we imagine, will be starting their new scrap books with these sketches.

Mr. R. Ray Baker of Ann Arbor writes: "If German bombs continue to rain on London, the time may come when English historians will be obliged to travel to Michigan to find original source material.

"For bombs already have destroyed priceless literary materials in the English capital, as witness the havoc wrought recently in the historic Holland House, built in 1607.

"Among the treasures in the library of the Holland House are (or were) letters comprising the correspondence of Charles James Fox from 1781 to 1783. Fox was the British secretary for foreign affairs who negotiated the final peace treaty terminating the Revolutionary War. If the Fox papers have been destroyed, there is only one place in the world where copies of them are available, and that place is the William L. Clements library at the University of Michigan."

Dear Editor:

The annual convention of the M-I-O Museums Association, held at Toledo, Ohio, was an eminent success. Dr. J. Arthur MacLean, Toledo Museum of Art, and Mr. L. J. Higgins of the Toledo Museum of Science proved very able hosts, and all of us are grateful for their hospitality.

As you may note by the letterhead, the name of our organization has been changed to reflect the enlarged scope of its

activities, for the museums of Illinois and Wisconsin are now included in the fold.

Officers elected for the coming year are as follows:

President: Dr. Carl E. Guthe, Director, University Museums, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Vice-Presidents:

Michigan—Dr. Robert T. Hatt, Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Indiana—Dr. Arthur B. Carr, Children's Museum, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Ohio—Mrs. M. A. W. Pratt, Massillon Museum, Massillon, Ohio.

Illinois—Dr. Thorne Deuel, Chief, Illinois State Museum, Springfield, Illinois.

Wisconsin—Mr. Charles E. Brown, Chief, State Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin.

Secretary-Treasurer: Helen S. LeFavour, 2665 W. Boston Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan.

Mr. I. T. Frary, Cleveland Museum of Art, was named editor of the quarterly publication, the *Midwest Museums Bulletin*, which will be issued in January, April, June and September. Mr. Henry Shetrone, Director, Ohio State Museum, has consented to handle publicity relevant to the Association. You readers are urged to send communications to Mr. Frary and Mr. Shetrone.

Historical sketches and flags of Michigan's 83 counties have been appearing in the press, sponsored by the J. L. Hudson Company of Detroit, and have attracted wide interest. The idea of a flag design for each county originated with Mr. Joseph B. Mills, Hudson publicity director. The county sketches were written by Dr. M. M. Quaife, secretary and editor of the Burton Historical Collection, Detroit. The sketches have been published in booklet form, at 50 cents, each sketch being accompanied by the appropriate flag. Each flag attempts to picture something emblematic of its county, representing some

important phase of its activities, some landmark or other characteristic.

How "Yale" got its name is told by E. Pearl MacDonald in the *Yale Expositor* for September 19, 1940. Consulting Dusty, the "Old Reliable," she found the name was originally Brockway Centre, changed to Yale in 1889. "What's in a name?" Now will some one please tell us why the place was called Yale? Mr. H. A. Hopkins of Port Huron cites Jenks' History of St. Clair County, that the name was suggested by Mr. B. R. Noble and taken from Yale College. But who knows why?

The names of the streets of our cities and villages often intrigue visitors. A good deal of biography and history is to be found in the nomenclature of streets. Teachers of English and history might profitably set their students to find the origin and meaning of these names. Results would make good reading in the local newspapers and help to make the folks history conscious.

There is still standing in Vermontville, Eaton County, one of the earliest Academies of Michigan built by pioneers from the state of Vermont who founded this little village in 1836. The Founding of Vermontville was not unlike a Puritan exodus from England. Its settlers came almost entirely from a Vermont region that was commonly referred to as the Champlain Valley. The Rev. Sylvester Cochrane, a Congregational minister, moved in with his whole congregation and the records show that the Vermontville church played an important part in the government of the early village. Education was a prime interest. This Academy was not just another school but a center for advanced education. It turned out many prominent citizens in various business and professional activities, among them Edward Barber who held important state offices and was

at one time editor of the *Jackson Patriot*; Frank Davis, a civil engineer who helped open up the great northwest; Dr. Joseph Griswold, for years a prominent physician of Grand Rapids; Edward Church, once head of the School for the Blind; Dr. Frank Kedzie, at one time president of Michigan State College; and Judge Clement Smith, well known circuit judge for many years for Eaton and Barry counties. These precious old buildings now growing all too few in Michigan deserve protection for their architecture and for their historic associations.

The City of Flint boasts a business and professional college that flourished in the late 1880's and 1890's, Flint Normal College, privately operated, which gave degrees, says Mr. S. F. Walsh, who graduated in 1891 and has a picture of the college with students and faculty standing out in front.

Evidences of the sojourn of the family of President McKinley in Caseville, Huron County, may still be found in the village. Mr. William Darmey of Caseville has a writing desk and chair that were part of the furnishings in the William McKinley, Sr., home while the family lived there from 1873 to 1879. The President's father had an interest in the Pigeon Iron and Salt Company, became clerk and bookkeeper for the Company and the little office he used may still be seen in Caseville.

Arthur Pound, native of Pontiac, whose latest non-fiction volume, *Detroit: Dynamic City*, was published early in 1940, has been appointed director of archives and history of the University of New York at Albany. Several of Mr. Pound's books have been reviewed in the Magazine, among them *The Turning Wheel: The Story of General Motors Through Twenty-five Years 1908-1933*; *Industrial America: Its Way of Work and Thought*; and *Hawk of Detroit* (1939), an historical novel,

with Cadillac, founder of Detroit, as its hero. Before devoting his time exclusively to research and writing, Mr. Pound was managing editor of the Akron *Beacon-Journal*, chief editorial writer for the Grand Rapids *Press*, and later he was editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*. He is a member of the Executive Council of the Michigan Authors Association.

A new volume on the history and government of Genesee County has just been completed by the Records Survey project of WPA. The work represents some two and one-half years of research and writing and comprises 225 pages. Copies have been placed in all public libraries of the county. This labor was directly supervised by Mrs. Mildred Tucker of Flint, in charge of the project.

Back in the days when most everything burned down that caught on fire, brawny firemen used to man the old hand pumpers, of which the only one of its kind known to be in this part of the country, a very interesting antique, recently came into the possession of William Werner who operates an antique shop on US-16 east of Grand Rapids. It is worth seeing.

The whine of saws biting into timber will presently be heard as the few remaining stationary sawmills of southern Michigan open their seasonal run. The sawmill has disappeared entirely from some sections. Points that still have them are possessed of a first-rate tourist attraction. There is a notable one at Pigeon, Huron County, the old Diebel mill, one of the oldest in the Thumb, steam-powered and still operated in season.

George W. Stark continues to interest readers of the *Detroit News* with his daily column, "We Old Timers."

"News Letter of the Detroit Council on Local History" came to our desk in December in a new dress allegedly presented by Santa Claus as a Christmas present. It looks very nice. The "Council", a federation of Detroit organizations interested in local history, is doing a much needed work. "News Letter", which reached No. 5 in December, is edited by Prof. Joe L. Norris and is published by Wayne University. A copy of the current issue may be obtained by addressing the University.

"These Our Yesterdays", the story of Detroit, new series of historical dramas that have been coming over the air from WWJ since October 20 we have found entertaining and instructive. They are produced by the Wayne University Broadcasting Guild in cooperation with the Detroit Council on Local History. The hour is 1:15 p. m. every Sunday through the middle of May, and the story will be carried through to Michigan statehood. The actors on the program are all student members of Wayne University Broadcasting Guild. Professor Joe Norris supervises the research material. The scripts are written by Frank Telford, who is with the radio department of the Detroit Board of Education, and various members of the Detroit Historical Society contribute the original research material. Mr. Garnet R. Garrison of the University assists as Director of the University's Division of Radio.

Dear Editor,

In response to your request for a brief summary of the Maumee Valley International Historical Convention held September 27-29, 1940, I am pleased to submit the following:

The Maumee Valley is rich in scenic beauty and crowded with historical associations. Here runs one of Nature's great highways connecting the St. Lawrence-Great Lakes with the Mississippi River system. Here French, British, Indian and American armies have contended for supremacy. Here were constructed one of the last canals and one of the earliest rail-

roads of interior America. Here today centers one of the richest agricultural areas in all the world; while within an easy one-day automobile drive over 20,000,000 people have their homes.

Taking account of these and other pertinent factors, historical and civic agencies representing the four commonwealths of Ontario, Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana, began, in December, 1939, laying plans for an historical convention to celebrate their common historical background and strengthen the ties of patriotism and of international good will, unbroken for more than a century. A general committee of twenty, representing the four commonwealths, assumed direction of the entire convention. Local organizations, civic and educational, too numerous to list here, cooperated loyally in promoting the various activities scheduled. The principal programs were held at Fort Wayne, Defiance, Fort Meigs, and Toledo. Lovelier weather than fate accorded could not have been desired, and all the formal programs were well attended. At Defiance, in a setting unique in beauty, some 1200 to 1500 persons enjoyed a rarely attractive program. The climax of the Convention came at Fort Meigs, with Governor Bricker of Ohio and Mr. William J. Cameron of Dearborn as principal speakers, and with an imposing military display to add to the interest of the occasion. The attendance here—limited only by the capacity of the adjacent highways—was about 10,000. Dean Carl Wittke of Oberlin, Louis Blake Duff of Welland, Prof. R. Clyde Ford of Ypsilanti, Dr. Randolph G. Adams, of Ann Arbor, Prof. William W. Sweet of Chicago, and Dr. Louis A. Warren of Fort Wayne, were a few of the speakers on the several programs. Besides the speakers, many other individuals contributed freely their time and talent to make the Convention the success it proved to be. A veteran mid-Western State Historical Society Secretary, who has been attending local and national historical gatherings for practically forty years, stated that no historical conference in his experience had been

marked by a greater degree of historical interest or of scholarly excellence than the one these lines serve all too inadequately to record.

M. M. QUAIFE, Chairman,
General Committee,
M. V. I. H. C.

Over 100 citizens of Ann Arbor, Chelsea and Dexter attended the meeting of the Washtenaw Historical Society at Dexter, November 25. The business meeting was conducted by Prof. L. G. Vander Velde, president of the society, after which Henry D. Brown, chairman of the entertainment committee took charge of the following interesting program: Vocal selections, Mrs. Carl Feiner. Address on the life of the late Senator Royal S. Copeland, by Hon. H. W. Newkirk. Screen pictures of "Old Dexter" from 1857 to 1869 (inclusive). Vocal selections, John F. Hoey. Examination of articles, documents and letters owned by the society and by Miss Cornelia Copeland was much enjoyed by those present.

It is announced the Society will be benefitted by the will of the late Miss Lucy E. Chapin who died November 12, who left the Society her valuable collection of Washtenaw county antiques, also \$100 for preservation of the collections.

ANSWERS

1. Congress recognized Michigan as a state in the Union January 26, 1837.
2. Woodbridge N. Ferris, Jan. 6, 1853; Josiah W. Begole, Jan. 20, 1815; Chase S. Osborn, Jan. 22, 1860; Frank D. Fitzgerald, Jan. 27, 1885; John S. Barry, Jan. 29, 1802.
3. Massacre of the American sick and wounded following the Battle of Frenchtown (Monroe) in the War of 1812, —January 23, 1813.
4. Charles A. Lindbergh, born in Detroit, February 4, 1902.
5. Fort St. Joseph (site of the city of Niles, Berrien County).
6. Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State College) East Lansing.
7. Austin Blair, born February 8, 1818.
8. The Knights of Pythias.
9. Calhoun County, organized March 6, 1833.
10. DeWitt Clinton, governor of New York who was the chief promoter of the Erie Canal used by many settlers in coming to Michigan. Clinton County was organized March 12, 1839.